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Nor were his personal qualities such as to command the eager attachment of friends or the loving retrospect of later times. A man "of that temperate sort which recoils from extremes in whichever direction they go" may be, as Godolphin was, of incalculable utility, but he will not become an object of national pride. "Patient, industrious, clear-headed, and prudent, he rose to eminence by the resolute exercise of qualities which are reckoned common, but which

are in fact possessed by few." He began life in revolutionary days when any young man with useful qualities, however moderate his rank, might make a career for himself; and he accepted without reserve the conditions of the time. He had no shrinking from that dependence upon the Duchess of Portsmouth which placed his foot firmly upon the ladder of promotion; "never in the way and never out of it," he preserved the favour of the king without effort. Even if he possessed constructive political principles, he was as careful not to obtrude them as he was to keep in abeyance the maxims of a severe political honour. His mind, with its "innate determination to reconcile means and ends," was set upon obtaining the manipulation of national finance; and it was his resolute adherence to negations that enabled him to secure his wish. Such a figure is not a brilliant one in the annals of political strife; and though his wariness, his taciturnity, his devotion to the task he set himself, and his incontestable talent made him the trusted minister of four successive reigns, his place, even when he reached his highest rank, was, so to speak, with the commissariat.

The third and the principal cause of the oblivion which has overtaken the first, if not the greatest, of English finance ministers, is of a different kind. Strangely enough, it resides in that very association to which he owed the proud position he held so long. While Godolphin was bringing order out of chaos in the administration; while under his methodical genius the Treasury, as Burnet says, was as exact and regular in all payments as any private bank could be; while after many years of pro-longed national effort and reckless expenditure, aggravated by political confusion and bad harvests, the Government was able to borrow money freely at a rate of interest lower than had ever been reached before; and while he never once failed to satisfy the ever increasing demands of an exhausting and apparently interminable war, the fact remained that that war was one in which John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, was creating for the after ages of his country a new inheritance, the inheritance of military renown. When a master of finance and a hero of war are in partnership it is not the former whom posterity will regard. Who cares how the money was got which the first Pitt spent with open hands whilst he directed against England's foes in every quarter of the globe the national spirit which he had roused from sleep? Who asks about the First Lord of the Treasury who provided the millions which gave Nelson his fleets? To borrow money at four per cent. may have been a greater feat than to rout Tallard, but the glory of Blenheim is a permanent source of pride to Englishmen.

Such, we think, are the leading causes of the comparative indifference with which Godolphin's name is pronounced. All the more is credit due for this honest and thorough attempt to place before us, both positively and relatively, in as striking a light as possible, the great services which Godolphin accomplished for his country. Mr. Elliot is in no wise content to leave him with the reputation usually accorded; he claims him for his country as a statesman of

the first rank. He especially combats the popular idea of Godolphin as the mere man of business of Marlborough; he declares, on the contrary, that it was Godolphin who, with complete self-abnegation, guided, controlled, and protected the dubious counsels, the short-sighted strategy, and the hazardous fortunes of his great colleague. It is to this view of the relative positions of the two men that we trace what we think to be on Mr. Elliot's part an insufficient sense of the all-dominating nature of the war. He ascribes, for instance, by implication at least, the dismissal of Rochester to differences on administrative points and to general incompatibility, and he names the Occasional Conformity Bill as the leading cause of Godolphin's final and decisive acceptance of the Whig scheme of government. Few things, however, seem clearer to us than that the one event occurred because Rochester opposed the war on the lines adopted by Marlborough, and the other because with the help of the Whigs alone was there any hope that that war could be properly sustained.

The laudable zeal which Mr. Elliot shows for impartiality has led him to at least one judgment upon Godolphin's conduct which appears to be unjustly severe. He refers in language of the most vehement disapproval to his compliance in the request of James II. to Louis XIV. for a sum of money to enable him to carry on the government without a Parliament, and to assist Catholicism. Mr. Elliot calls this "a transaction which hardly finds a parallel in English history," "the terrible crime which Godolphin and his colleagues committed against England," and so forth. This language is altogether overstrained. accordance with a well-established custom Mr. Elliot goes astray in the history of James II. He forgets that government by subsidy from France had been carried on for years with so little disguise that men spoke openly and without any contemptuous meaning of the "salary" from Louis, and that four years of marked prosperity and ease had passed without a single parlia-mentary session. We can well understand a sober man of business like Godolphin, with the recollection of the demoralizing confusions of the last Parliaments of Charles II. in his mind, being willing, without reluctance or dishonesty, to continue a system which had become almost traditional. The king's counsellors and Louis XIV. knew perfectly well that Catholicism was out of the question; all they cared for was that Parliament should not sit; and in the state of national ethics which then prevailed the case was at least arguable. Moreover, Mr. Elliot largely overstates the amount which passed. In the first instance we fancy it to have been not "a huge sum," as Mr. Elliot terms it, but some 25,000l.; and although Barillon with great difficulty obtained further considerable supplies from his master, they were doled out with a very careful hand.

Again, is Mr. Elliot certain that Algernon Sidney was "stained with the corruption in which Sunderland wallowed"? Can he with reason speak of 15,000 troops "occupying" the Netherlands? Why does he commit himself to language so commonplace in its extravagance as "The great object of James's life had been to persuade men to violate the

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most sacred trusts"? And why, to name but one point more, does he, in dealing with earlier years, repeat the old charge, so often proved untrue that it will soon go nigh to be thought so, that Shaftesbury was the author of the 'Stop of the Exchequer'?

We regret that we have space to notice but one or two of the interesting and really well worked-out passages in Mr. Ellict's book. He notes the advice which Godolphin gave to William III., who was pleased, as Burnet says, with the calm, cold temper, so like his own,

"to set up a party of your own, and let all people see that if they expect your favour they must depend upon you for it, and not let any one hope for promotion for being true to a faction, but by serving you";

and his discussion of Godolphin's own complete failure in after years to put this principle in practice—a principle which occurred to him as the only method of escaping from parliamentary difficulties—gives us the opportunity of quoting one of the best passages in the book:—

"The Crown was still a power in the Statea waning power, it is true, but still a power which, in the skilful hands of an adroit statesman, might be used with great effect in the work of government. It had places and pensions at its command, it had honours and wealth to be-There seemed to be no insuperable difficulty in the way of collecting a parliamentary party of time-serving politicians, who would be prepared at any moment to execute the orders of their leaders.....But Godolphin and Marlborough had in the prosecution of their design to contend with a difficulty greater even than that of a rupture with the queen, which might, after all, be temporary and susceptible of arrangement. The establishment for any length arrangement. The establishment for any length of time of a third party in practical politics is absolutely opposed to the genius of the English people. That Godolphin and Marlborough were ignorant of a fact which must be patent to the most casual reader of English history is not surprising. They lived in days when party government was at its very inception. Neither they nor any of their contemporaries could frame more than a guess as to the ultimate shape into which it might resolve itself. It had no history, no party, and no analysis of it was possible. There was nothing in the reign of Queen Anne to show that an intermediate party might not exist in English politics, as well as two parties representing the poles of political thought."

Equally meritorious is a passage in which Mr. Elliot describes the difficulties in the economy of government under the new sovereign:—

"The more her people trusted her and believed in her, the less were they inclined to interpose in her government or to interfere in the choice of her servants. There was thus, on the accession of Anne, an inclination to revert to the practice of older times in reference to the selection of ministers, which politicians failed to perceive was rendered unworkable by a great, though unrecognized, development of popular and parliamentary power. The people were getting more powerful, the Crown less powerful. The certain result of a lapse to the old order of things was the creation of ministerial instability and disturbance; the ministers had got their patent, so to speak, from the wrong master, and two opposing powers were immediately brought into conflict, a power which pleaded prescription against a power which pleaded strength. Nothing but confusion could ensue till these rival claims were adjusted."

Mr. Elliot, with great appearance of justice, claims for Godolphin a large part of the

credit for the Bank Bill and other financial measures of William's reign which have hitherto been ascribed to Montague. He deals at length with his hero's action regarding the Act of Security, holding that he purposely carried it against all the force of popular clamour in order to bring on a crisis, and that it admirably suited its purpose. Mr. Elliot's remarks on these matters are extremely interesting, and he certainly appears to make out a satisfactory case.

Probably, however, the passages which will attract most attention are those in which Mr. Elliot deals with Godolphin's views regarding the best war policy. On this matter he has found documents of great value, which put the minister before us in a new light. A memorandum in his handwriting, found in the British Museum, proves that

"from the moment that the insurrection in the Cevennes broke out Godolphin's heart became fixed upon operations in the Mediterranean. The South of France, he thought, was the most vulnerable part of the kingdom. If he had been permitted to follow his own inclinations, he would have sent a fleet into the Mediterranean, swept the Adriatic, and burnt the French magazines at Genoa and Leghorn. From the first he seems to have appreciated to a greater degree than his contemporaries the golden opportunity which the troubles in Provence offered to English military enterprise."

In the same way is ascribed to Godolphin, with a good deal of indirect evidence, the plan of carrying the war into Savoy and of capturing Toulon. Mr. Elliot describes with much clearness the manner in which these far-seeing designs—designs never favoured by Marlborough, who could not bear to see the war turned away from his own command—were frustrated by the folly of Peterborough, and the energy of England dissipated in a barren war on Spanish soil.

We part with Mr. Elliot's book with much regret. He has undertaken a difficult task, and has done it very well, and with an entire absence of unnecessary detail. But simplicity may be carried beyond its proper limits. Why is there no index?

Modern Street Ballads. By John Ashton. (Chatto & Windus.)

The present collection of street ballads serves as a companion volume to Mr. Ashton's book of 'Roxburghe Ballads.' In his introduction the editor frankly admits that the literary merit of his latest budget of ballads is not particularly high; "but what," he asks, "can you expect for half-a-crown? which was the price which Jemmy Catnach, of Monmouth Court, Seven Dials, used to pay for their production." A period of some fifty years is covered, from the mutiny at the Nore in 1798 to the opening of the Great Exhibition in 1851; and Mr. Ashton's industry has provided ample entertainment for readers who are not too fastidious.

Some of these street ballads have acquired a classic celebrity. 'The Ratcatcher's Daughter,' for example, has never lacked admirers. It opens well:—

In Westminster not long ago,
There lived a Ratcatcher's Daughter.
She was not born at Westminster,
But on the t'other side of the water.
Her father killed rats, and she sold sprats,
All round, and over the water,
And the gentlefolks, they all bought sprats,
Of the pretty Ratcatcher's Daughter.

A better version, by the way, of the sixth line than Mr. Ashton's is

All round and about that quarter.

Rich and poor, far and near, sought the hand of the Rateatcher's Daughter, but "at friends and foes she cocked her nose"; for

— there was a man cried "Lily White Sand," Who in Cupid's net had caught her.

The marriage was fixed for Easter Sunday; but the Rateatcher's Daughter, who had a presentiment that she "shouldn't be alive next Monday," on her way to buy some sprats tumbled into the water and was drowned. When the news was brought to her disconsolate lover,

— he cut his throat with a piece of glass, And stabbed his donkey arter, So there was an end of Lily White Sand, His ass and the Ratcatcher's Daughter.

The collection embraces a wide variety of subjects. Policemen, cabmen, teetotalers, poachers, and pugilists are well represented; the Greenland whale fishery and the Margate hoy, Bartholomew Fair and the Australian gold-diggings, cock-fights and Chartists, come in for a share of notice; and, of course, there is a sprinkling of nautical ballads. We meet the usual complaints about the improvidence of present times. Simplicity of life, say these nineteenth century ballad-writers, has vanished; and their predecessors of the seventeenth century raised the same wail in the 'Roxburghe Ballads.' 'The New-Fashioned Farmer' is written from the farm-labourers' point of view. Farmers are attacked on the score of their "stinking pride":—

A good old-fashioned long grey coat,
The farmers us'd to wear, Sir,
And on old Dobbin they would ride,
To market or to fair, Sir,
But now fine geldings they must mount,
To join all in the chace, Sir,
Dressed up like any lord or squire,
Before their landlord's face, Sir.

The landlords to reduce "such confounded pride" doubled the farmers' rents, and by this spirited move "brought them to reflection." But the humbling of the farmers' pride was not accomplished without loss to the labourers:—

It makes poor servants' wages low, And keeps them in subjection.

'The Honest Ploughman, or Ninety Years Ago,' is very dreary reading—a dismal description of the hardships encountered by an old worn-out ploughman at the close of his career.

Ballad-writers, a loyal race, are always to the front at a coronation or a royal marriage. 'Viva Victoria' and 'Welcome now, Victoria,' abound in conservative sentiment: "We'll have peace, but it must be with honour," "Rally round the old banner of Union," "For the Queen is the monarch of freedom," &c. The birth of the Prince of Wales was celebrated in a "new song," from which we quote a couple of stanzas:—There's a pretty fuss and bother both in country and in town,

Since we have got a present, and an heir unto the Crown.

A little Prince of Wales so charming and so sly, And the ladies shout with wonder, What a pretty little boy!

He must have a little musket, a trumpet and a

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A little penny rattle and a silver sword so bright,
A little cap and feather with scarlet coat so smart,
And a pretty little hobby horse to ride about the

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A spirited ballad is devoted to the income tax. The writer dwells with gusto ("quibus ipse malis quia cernere suave est") on the inconveniences that would be likely to result from the imposition of the tax. Mr. Ashton gives one ballad on the cries of London. It necessarily has less fulness and variety than earlier ballads on the subject, but is not without antiquarian interest. 'Striking Times,' a ballad of 1853, urges upon workmen that "this is the time for striking." Some London printers

—— this glorious work begun,

And surely they 've done something, for they 've

upset the Sun.

Then followed a strike of the weavers of Stockport, Kidderminster, and Spitalfields. The Liverpool postmen struck:—

They asked for three bob more a week, and got it in a crack,

And though each man has got his bag, they have not got the sack.

A strike of cabmen was threatened; "the coopers and the dockyard men are all a-going to strike"; and the Suffolk farm-labourers were determined to "have their wages rose." The ballad-writer was delighted at the turn things were taking.

Fifty-six illustrations, reproductions of rude woodcuts, adorn this amusing volume.

Memoirs of the Count de Falloux. From the French. Edited by C. B. Pitman. 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

The practice of describing translations as "edited by" somebody—a practice which at once leaves the responsibility for the actual translation vague and makes it impossible, without the most laborious com-parison, to discover whether the whole of the original is given or not-is one for which we have no affection. And the 'Mémoires d'un Royaliste' of the late M. de Falloux was a book well deserving translation into English. As its French title imported, it was intended not merely as a collection of reminiscences nor as a personal autobiography, but as something like a history of an important political party, the moderate French Royalists, for the last half century. It succeeded in being this and in being a decidedly interesting book as well. The morals of its political side are numerous, interesting, and valuable, though perhaps they could hardly be discussed here without trenching upon political controversy. It is sufficient to say that the whole does not throw a particularly favourable light on the plan ried more than once in history, but never, that we can think of, with real success, and never tried longer or more unsuccessfully than in the present instance) of "transacting" with political convictions by acquiescence in, if not by actively serving, governments the legitimacy of which the politician in his heart, if not with his mouth, denies. This kind of acquiescence and service seems neither to bless him who gives nor him who takes, but to produce weak governments and paralytic parties. As it could never have been given by an honester man than M. de Falloux, and has not often been given by an abler, the illustration is sufficiently instructive, though, as has been said, its teachings could hardly be worked out here except at great length and with deviations into matters not well suited to these pages.

Quite independently, however, of this political meaning, the book forms an interesting collection of memoirs, and though it does not go out of its way to be anecdotic, the experiences which M. de Falloux had in his career as correspondent (so to speak) of the exiled royal family, as deputy, as minister under the Second Republic, as prisoner of the Coup d'État, as friend of many distinguished statesmen, as academician, as country squire, and in not a few other capacities, are told brightly enough. They begin with some sketches of the west of France at a time when there was no usual method of conveyance but oxwaggons lined with straw and with armchairs hoisted into them, and end only with that extraordinary blunder or more extraordinary rifiuto of the Comte de Chambord, which as it were but the other day ruined Royalist hopes and inflicted the bitterest grief on M. de Falloux himself. Whether he is wholly just to Henri V. may be matter of opinion. It was, no doubt, hardly possible for a man to be quite just when he saw the results of a lifetime's work, as he thought, about to appear, and then saw all hope of them, also as he thought, wilfully or senselessly destroyed. He is, perhaps, also a little unjust to two other persons-M. Louis Veuillot and the Duke of Wellington-in the latter respect once more showing what has often been shown before, and quite recently in the memoirs of Villèle, that no French party has liked England less than that for which England did most. But the duke would not at all have troubled himself about what M. de Falloux thought of him; and as for Veuillot, he was much too careless of justice to others to make one care to take up the cudgels for

The translation is by no means well done, words being used with such carelessness of their meaning that the translator talks of the "prorogation of Marshal Macmahon's powers," and writes: "Poverty voluntarily accepted soon became the excuse for a series of bold speculations which were not always equal in nobility to the original starting-point." The nobility of a speculation is a queer thing, but the nobility of a starting-point is a queerer. This uncouthness interferes with the quotableness, if not with the readableness, of not a few anecdotes amusing enough in themselves. Such is the ingenious device of the Bishop of Amiens, who, having been ordained when a widower, found that a general prejudice caused his children-though of course born in wedlock and of irreproachable status in the eyes of the Church—to be looked upon askance, and used to introduce them as "my brother's nephews." Collectors of purely literary history will be rather disappointed with the meagreness of M. de Falloux's anecdotes on this head, though he seems to have frequented the famous salon of Madame de Girardin. There is an account-more generally interesting than distinguished by any particular anecdote — of the exiled household of Charles X. at Prague. But the greater part of the book is naturally occupied with the short period during which, under the presidency of the future Napoleon III., the Royalist count was a Republican minister; with the Coup d'Etat, in which he, though a personal friend of

Persigny's, and apparently not a personal enemy of Louis Napoleon, was imprisoned; and with the last hapless negotiations with Frohsdorf after the war. The most memorable thing, perhapa, in the whole book is the exclamation of Thiers: "No one will be able to deny that the true founder of the French Republic is M. le Comte de Chambord. Posterity will speak of him as the French Washington."

Love Letters of Famous Men and Women of the Past and Present Century. Edited by J. T. Merydew. 2 vols. With Portraits. (Remington & Co.)

In Abbé Huc's delightful books about China there is an anecdote of a schoolmaster who, having an opportunity of writing to his mother, ordered one of his scholars to prepare a suitable letter, which in due course the schoolmaster fastened up and addressed without even looking at its contents. Many of the writers whose effusions are given in the volumes before us might perfectly well have followed the example of the Chinese pedant. The love letters-at least those which timely indiscretions revealed to the public—of the fine gentlemen in the last century were in a large measure aca-demic exercises. Those who have been behind the scenes in a diplomatic expedition are perfectly aware that the official correspondence is comparatively of little importance, and that the real history of the negotiations is found in the confidential communications between the envoy and the Foreign Office. We suspect that in the love affairs of our great-grandfathers there was some tacit understanding of the same sort, and that besides what may be called the official despatches there were others of a more tender and intimate character. We certainly know of an unpublished letter of Pope to Martha Blount written in a very different strain from those in the published collections. Addison, we can well imagine, would never condescend to familiarities even in a billet down, and he probably addressed his declarations to Lady Warwick in Vir-gilian hexameters. Lord Peterborough, when he was pretending to make love to Lady Suffolk, was not far from the Psalmist's limit of age; Chloe herself was very deaf and not very young, and their correspondence was merely the amusement of a restless old age. But it is impossible to suppose that Congreve's familiar letters to Mrs. Bracegirdle, or Farquhar's to Anne Oldfield, were at all like their productions which appear in Mr. Merydew's collection. Who would recognize the "irresistible Mr. Congreve," the brilliant author of 'Love for Love' and 'The Way of the World,' in the wooer who writes so despondingly to some unknown correspondent?

"This is the third letter that I have sent you since I came hither. Those which went before it were all the overflowings of a heart more full of passion than ever was a man's before. It is impossible for me to be distant from you, but I must send to you by every occasion. And yet you can resolve to take no notice of all my tenderness."

And another letter, apparently to the same person, ends:—

"The only wish that I have to make is to be happy in thee. If that succeeds not, I have another, and that is to lie at rest in my grave."

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But the editor could, after all, only select from the materials that were at his command. To speak frankly, his apparent object was to fill two bulky volumes, and his compilation has at least the merit of belonging to a class of literature which many persons think themselves competent not only to read, but to criticize.

One of the least pleasant parts of our ancestors' love letters is the constant allusion to their bodily ailments, and from this weakness, at least, we hope our modern lovers are exempt. Pope might have added a new illustration to his treatise on 'The Bathos; or, the Art of Sinking,' from one of his own letters to Martha Blount, where he complains bitterly of the discipline he is undergoing at the direction of his physician. Farquhar, the most rollicking of the wits, excuses himself for writing nonsense to his mistress, as he is suffering from having been too long a-horseback on the previous day. Dr. Johnson was another conspicuous offender in this respect, and in his letters to Mrs. Thrale he was constantly imparting particulars about his health such as are usually reserved for the medical adviser. Even David Hume in his last letter to Madame de Boufflers, written a few days before his death, enters into disagreeable details about his illness which considerably detract from the pathos of his solemn fare-

This want of refinement is not found in the ladies' letters, at all events in the specimens given by Mr. Merydew. The most interesting are those from Mary Wollstonecraft to Imlay, which not long ago were republished by Mr. Kegan Paul. Nothing can surpass the pathos, the unselfish love, and the sterling honesty displayed in these hopeless appeals, in which, however, the writer never forgets her womanly pride. Godwin was the first to give these letters to the public, but whatever gratitude we may feel for the boon we cannot conceal our contempt for the mean-spirited creature who, for some slight pecuniary gain, could make public his wife's letters, written under such pain-ful circumstances, to another man. It is not, perhaps, generally known that Godwin attempted (doubtless with a similar object) to get possession of Mary's letters to Fuseli; but he failed to effect his purpose, and received from the old Swiss artist as severe and well-merited a rebuke as ever was inflicted on mortal man.

In strange contrast with Mary Wollstonecraft's earnestness and despair are the letters of Sylvander to Clarinda, which do not show to advantage Burns's eloquence as a lover. The sentiment in the letters is mere fustian, and we fancy the whole affair was a sham. Burns was used to express his true feelings in verse, and during the same winter in Edinburgh when he was feigning a grand passion for Mrs. M. Lehose (Clarinda), he was composing charming love songs for two young ladies, to one of whom he is said to have proposed marriage. Indeed, many of the letters before us are very different from what we should have expected from the reputation of the writers. We hardly realize that Warren Hastings, the most resolute and determined of men, could write to the "elegant Marian" these formal productions, which reminded Macaulay of

Sir Charles Grandison bowing over Miss Byron's hand in the cedar parlour. style of his love compositions was, however, the only point in which the great Proconsul resembled the "incomparable man" of Richardson's best novel.

It is unnecessary to discuss much further the contents of Mr. Merydew's compilation, which contains letters from men and women of all sorts and conditions, for if some of their correspondence is of great interest, in no case, we fancy, is it quite new to the reading public. Each series of letters is prefaced by a short account of the writer and the person to whom they are addressed. These memoirs are fairly well done, and supply as much information as is required; but the editor has made a strange error in describing Martha and Teresa Blount as the daughters of Lister Blount, a Roman Catholic clergyman; and a more careful revision would have detected misprints like "Cadenas and Vanessa," "Dr. Garnet," "Madame du Deffands." A few short foot-notes are occasionally required; and in the correspondence between the Prince and Mrs. Fitzherbert the names designated by initials might easily have been ascertained and inserted in the margins.

The value of Mr. Merydew's volumes is certainly not enhanced by the portraits. With a few exceptions they are very unattractive, but there is a clever profile of Mrs. Piozzi which we do not remember to

have seen before.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Undercurrents. By the Author of 'Molly Bawn.' 3 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.) The Jewel Reputation. By Mrs. Aylmer Gowing. 3 vols. (Spencer Blackett.) Herne Lodge. By the Earl of Desart. 2 vols. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

Lady Bluebeard. By the Author of 'Zit and Xoe.' 2 vols. (Blackwood & Sons.) Caroline. By Lady Lindsay. (Bentley &

Son.)

The Root of all Evil. By Alec Fearon. (Sonnenschein & Co.) Pen. By the Author of 'Tip-Cat.' (Smith

& Innes.)

The Blossom and the Fruit: a True Story of a Black Magician. By Mabel Collins and (Published by the Authors.) The Power of the Hand. By F. E. M. Notley.

3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)
Noel Chetwynd's Fall. By Mrs. J. H.
Needell. (Edinburgh, Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier.)

Bairnie. By Lillias Lobenhoffer. (Digby & Long.

The Albino: a Personal Narrative. Hartley Tamlyn. (Roper & Drowley.)

THE title 'Undercurrents' is not particularly descriptive of the book itself, nor of anything else its pleasant author seems likely to give us. Her function is to skim the surface of things bright, pretty, and voluptuous; and in the present story such darker elements as suppressed documents, murderous assaults, and grim parents and guardians pass as though they were not, nor had ever been. Our author's right materials are light dialogue and lighter chaff, male strength and female loveliness, flippant flirtation and clandestine meetings accom-panied with "suitoring" both bold and

This is what delights a large section of the novel-reading public, and, in spite of a deviation or two in search of tragedy and of gloom, is the staple of 'Undercurrents.' The heroines are two quite too-lovely orphan sisters. Notwithstanding their lonely condition, and the passionate attachment they entertain for each other, they have a wonderful gift of self-isolation, and of leaving one another free to tread the primrose path. The younger—though occasionally uncertain, coy, and hard to satisfy—is one "who can thoroughly enjoy the pursuit when she pleases." The elder is more ambitious, and is far too much addicted to palings, recoilings, and such like expressions of intensity. But she also has the root of the matter in her, and gives her lover many opportunities of interviews by moonlight; with the gratifying result that all goes well in the end, and as many as want to be are

made happy for life.

The three volumes of Mrs. Gowing's story contain ample material for at least as many separate novels. The reader's brain begins to reel before the end of the first volume at the rapidity of the kaleidoscopic changes in each person's destiny, and we may add, disposition; the last climax of all leaves him in a state of resigned, but still expectant bewilderment. The characters have so often survived what might naturally have proved a final crisis before that seems to be no particular reason why most of them should not start off yet once more upon their wild career. The story is at its best in the opening scenes, which are laid in the neighbourhood of Musselburgh, and are pleasing and full of local colour. The Scotch minister and his family, and Mrs. Headly, the worthy actress, are all good and natural sketches. Unfortunately, the author very soon exchanges the real for the unreal and tawdry. The amazing household of Lord de Vere, the strange scenes from an imaginary "high life," the repulsive vulgarity of Lady Rose de Vere and her unmerited reward from fate, the theatrical villain Thistlecraft, and the curious perversion of all human or poetic justice in the author's final disposal of the situation between Tempest and Lilian-all these sadly belie the opening promise of what should have been a pretty and readable story.

The Earl of Desart has written perhaps

the most disagreeable story that has appeared this year. This might be forgiven if it were worth telling or well told; but it is neither. The first of the two volumes is occupied by what the author, for no obvious reason, terms "The Prologue," a mystery of moderate interest. Then we begin an entirely new story, utterly horrible and disgusting, which in its turn gives place to "The Epilogue," where the prologue is concluded with a singularly unpleasant tragedy, relieved by what the author, no less truly than modestly, calls his "feeble powers of humour." The characters in story No. 1 are fairly pleasant and human; those in No. 2 are like nothing in heaven or earth or-stay, they must be portraits of some beings under the earth, and Lord Desart has made them

Both in dialogue and description 'Lady Bluebeard' is an egregiously clever book, full of humour and whimsicality and brightness. If the author were only equally suc88

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would be first rate. He has taken the elements of Anglo-Indian life, good and bad, and idealized them to an extent which positively bewilders the ordinary mind. In this Sahara of wit one longs for a few oases of commonplace. There was never so protracted a duel of intelligence as the courtship of Lydia and Hector. The ice is at times of the thinnest, but the author is a most dexterous skater. Parts of the story are charming; in others, again, the writer drifts out of touch of the reader. In fine, 'Lady Bluebeard' is a brilliant tour de force. If the author would condescend to let, for instance, a quartermaster talk like a quartermaster, the result would be more true to life. As it is there are no foils, but all rapiers.

'Caroline' is eminently adapted to meet the well-known needs of the traditional young lady and her mamma, for it is lady-like and 'high-toned' throughout. The obstacles that momentarily hinder the course of the heiress and her less fortunate soupirant's journey towards the matrimonial goal are exactly what they should be under the circumstances. The young people, if commonplace, have no pretensions to be otherwise, and are as nice and wholesome as their prototypes, who may be met by hundreds any day in the park, at evening parties, and in well-to-do English society. Their little romance, like all such little romances, is mainly eventful to the hero and heroine themselves, and to their respective parents. To this number should, perhaps, be added the disappointed suitor, who conducts himself throughout in such an unimpeachable manner. In short, the story may safely be placed in the hands of all those young persons who will read it.

Those who like to sup on horrors can cartainly take their fill in Mr. Fearon's story. His extreme pessimism and the hopeless moral isolation of the heroine have a tendency to recall another rustic tragedy which won for itself a high reputation not long ago. Unlike the present work, however, 'A Village Tragedy' never sank into melo-dama, from which Mr. Fearon seldom rises. The relentless crushing out of all human or moral instincts by the passion of avarice in Michael Parsons is a study of some power. It shows the influence of Cherbuliez in his darker moods, but is lacking in that undercurrent of dry humour with which the Genevan writer flashes sparks out of the gloom, and relieves his own ferocity. A situation so ghastly as that in which the heroine, pursued by evil fate and an evil parent, eventually finds herself, requires skilful and artistic treatment to redeem it from the charge of violent melodrama. The writer's hand has hardly been light enough to achieve this. Nevertheless, melodrama apart, the picture of rural life is well done, and the figure of Nellie Parsons remains, in spite of red light, a pleasing and touching sketch of a high type of countrywoman really to be found here and there all over England.

To say that if it were not for the author 'Pen' would be a thoroughly charming and successful little story may sound a suspiciously Irish statement, but nevertheless such is the fact. The plot, though slight, is effective in spite of an immoderate number of deaths, and it ends happily, no small

matter in these days. The pathos—of which there is, perhaps, a superabundance — is genuine, and rings true. The sketches of Sandy, his child-love, and little Tre are excellent and lifelike; the other characters, though often shadowy, never offend the reader. The setting of the story is thoroughly in harmony with the action, though an over lavish allowance of detail—commonest of faults in English fiction—often becomes wearisome and confusing. The serious drawback to the book is the constant intrusion of the author's own personality amongst his puppets—a fault of taste which amounts to vulgarity when he buttonholes the reader with an aside upon the dramatis persona, or to expound his views upon things in general with irritating familiarity.

Prefaces, forewords, introductions, abound in 'The Blossom and the Fruit,' but they are apparently intended to confuse the mind with shadows rather than to explain. The authors ask their readers to accept the theory of the reincarnation of souls as a living fact, and then they proceed to tell a secular story of transmigrant souls, in a connected and occasionally very picturesque phantasmagoria. It is impossible to describe this fanciful, incoherent, half-intelligible romance. But in order to enjoy it is scarcely necessary to understand. The reader who is attracted by novels of this particular species will certainly like the specimen provided for him by Miss Collins and her collaborator. There are flowers of fancy which are worth culling; and to go beyond that might be criticism thrown away.

The author of 'Olive Varcoe' tells of curses and family spells, of evil eyes and sightless fates. 'The Power of the Hand' is a story of mystery; battalions of sorrows pursue the principal characters in the book from its beginning to its end, and there is an atmosphere of terror and gloom throughout. Fortunately for the haunted family and for Mrs. Notley's readers, a strong young man without any nonsense in him grapples with the phantom fate of the Carbonellis family, lays the ghost, and defeats the power of the Crusader's hand, which is supposed to have menaced the said family for many generations. Such is the motive of the story; and it is enough to add that Mrs. Notley has told it with spirit, resource, but somewhat inadequate relief.

It has seldom been our sad lot to peruse a sillier book than 'Noel Chetwynd's Fall.' It calls itself a novel, and treats of the ancient theme of the artist who basely steals his friend's drawings, and thereby gains a prize and loses his honour and his happiness. The scene is laid in London, partly in the gilded halls of the aristocracy, partly in hospitals and furnished lodgings. Mrs. Kynaston is a reminiscence of the Campaigner in 'The Newcomes,' and, unpleasant as she is, is the best-drawn character in the book. This, however, is not saying very much.

Mr. Archibald had a niece Bairnie. As he had also a medical friend who was always concerned once a year in a railway collision ("which frequently happens"—Lewis Carroll), what could be more natural than for one of these collisions to produce a mysterious French lady and for her to become

intimate with Bairnie? Clearly, the next step was for the French lady's husband to appear, and, after assaulting a tobacconist (this gentleman was a nobleman of high rank), to steal his own son for the obvious purpose of training him as a member of the secret police. Then, of course, Bairnie could scarcely do otherwise than go to Paris and get mixed up with a female spy and a feebleminded conspirator (her father, naturally). How the nobleman shot his son, and the female spy went mad, and the father-conspirator committed suicide, and Bairnie married an artist with a white umbrella, the reader will doubtless yearn to discover for himself. We will not stand in his way.

The notion of a "complexionless" hero in quest of the missing pigment has surely never inspired a novelist before. After reading Mr. Tamlyn's narrative his readers will be inclined to hope that it may never inspire a novelist again. The merits of Mr. Tamlyn's style may be gauzed from the following panegyric of "whe ling." As it stands the passage is printed as prose, but this is obviously a mistake:—

Invigorating exercise!
Seated upon mine iron steed, I sped
The country roads lightsome and merry-hearted.
As with scarce the semblance of exertion,
The wheels revolved and bore me onwards,
I felt 'twas royal travelling, indeed.

The dialogue is on a par with the narrative, e.g., "Well, Charles, to answer you in murdered Shakespearian periods—the which I see you affect—little shall I grace my cause in speaking of myself." How Granville Boughame, "all agog with joy," complexionless no longer, won his bride, and, folded "in one mutual embrace," "exchanged a thousand kisses" as he gazed upon her beautiful, large, lustrous eyes—all this is told without a shade of guile in language of the true transpontine style.

"GUIDES-JOANNE."

The two new volumes of the admirable series of guide-books published by Messrs. Hachette are those on Athens and Attica—a very limited and homogeneous, but most important field—and on the Danubian Principalities, which are in every respect the greatest possible contrast; for they include many varieties of language and of politics, and have, perhaps, no bond of unity beyond geographical proximity. We are not informed in the latter case what special author is responsible, probably because many were required. As to Athens we are in the hands of a perfectly competent scholar, M. Haussoullier, whose special services were secured for the volume likely to meet with the severest and most learned criticism. Every new guide to Athens, even from less distinguished hands, must be not only useful to the traveller, but interesting to the scholar, for the constant discoveries there, and the perpetual rearranging of the enriched museums, make all older books more or less imperfect.

imperfect. The plan of the "Guides-Joanne" is not to give any poetical or artistic suggestions, and for these another kind of work must be consulted; the handbook for Greece confines itself to the bare realities and necessities of an Attic tour. This latter view is, indeed, so strictly maintained that twenty-five pages out of the two hundred in the book are spent on details of the routes from Paris to Athens—a very irrelevant proceeding, for of what use are single pages on the curiosities of Munich, Vienna, Bologna, &c., with asterisks attached to these towns, to a traveller bent on an excursion to Greece? Surely a reference to the handbooks

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for Germany and Italy would have been enough, and more respectful to the traveller. A com-parison with the preamble to the other volume before us shows that these descriptions (such as that of Vienna) are transferred from one volume to another verbatim. But they are less out of place in the Danubian than in the Greek guide-

In looking through M. Haussoullier's account of Athens and Attica we find that there is a great deal of new matter on the various buildings of the Acropolis, derived from recent excavations. So also Eleusis forms a new and important feature in this guide, and there are many things feature in this guide, and there are many things described in the museums which were not accessible when Dr. Lolling composed his excellent "Baedeker" on Greece. The plan of the present series very properly separates Athens and Attica into a distinct book, and so gives far better maps and fuller details than its German rival.

The following trifles appear to us worthy of the author's attention in a new edition. When speaking (p. 30) of the Byzantine churches at Athens he might have been fuller, and said something of the curious variation in the dates (sixth and twelfth centuries) to which some of these very interesting buildings have been assigned. He is also too curt on the records of the De la Roche family at the convent of Daphni, on which M. Henri Belle has written such charming pages. Though he knows most of Dörpfeld's work, he is silent concerning the discoveries at Sunium, where the famous German architect - antiquary found that the marble temple had been erected on the site of an older shrine, differing from it very slightly, but dis-tinctly, in its intercolumniations. In the very adequate treatment of the Acropolis he gives too much space to the theories of M. Beulé, exploded even in his own opinion. He repeats the old story about the theatre of Dionysus holding 30,000 people. There is, indeed, a modern Greek estimate which asserts that over 26,000 is the exact figure. It would be well for some one who knows what an audience of 30,000 people means to take up the question, and settle it by measurements. Mr. Mahaffy asserts roundly that it could not possibly have contained more than 12,000. On a few points the information of this guide, published in 1888, dates from 1879, which is almost sure to be antiquated, especially in questions of population. an English critic disagreeably that while the writer speaks of the French and the German schools of archæology not a word is said of the new English School, founded by the effort of the Hellenic Society three years ago. The Greek society, to which M. Haussoullier often refers, also deserved a formal notice in this connexion. But these are only spots upon the clearness and brightness of an excellent little book.

We are not so favourably impressed with the other more complicated and perhaps thankless task of guiding the traveller through all the various Danubian and Adriatic provinces which cause such constant trouble in European politics. The book is supplied with excellent maps, chiefly from the Austrian official Ordnance Survey, but there is a curious want of knowledge of English authorities displayed by the compiler. He never mentions Adam's famous monograph on Spalatro, which, by the way, the moderns all call Spalato, nor does he cite either Sir Gardner Wilkinson on the natural beauties, or Mr. Jackson on the political as well as the architectural history of Dalmatia. The only authority quoted on the The only authority quoted on the buildings is M. Yriarte's picturesque book ('Aux Bords de l'Adriatique'), which is not to be compared for accuracy even to Mr. Freeman's studies, far less to Mr. Jackson's masterly and exhaustive treatise. But this is a question of learning; here is a practical defect, perhaps small, but also The accentuation of none of the Dalmatian names is given. How are we to pronounce Sebenico, Cattaro, Lacroma? Seeing how per-fectly unintelligible a false accent makes a word to natives who have never felt the difficulty, such

information should be omitted in no guide-book whatever. To give a vocabulary of the common words used in these polyglot provinces would seem a task far beyond any practical use. It has been increased by the rather comical addition of a German column, which is of no value, etymologically or otherwise, to the traveller who is striving to master a few words of Servian, Roumanian, or Hungarian.

In spite of these strictures the volume is In spite of these strictures the volume is interesting, especially as we know not at what moment every local detail it gives may become of practical importance in a campaign or an insurrection. The rapid rise of Fiume is specially noted as quite exceptional.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

Quicksilver. By G. Manville Fenn. (Blackie & Son.)

Anchor and Laurel. By J. Percy Groves. Illustrated. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)

The History of Arthur Penreath. Illustrated by

Stanley Berkeley. (Same publishers.)
The King's Bell Tower. By R. André. Illustrated. (Warne & Co.) Jack Locke. By Gordon Stables, M.D., R.N. Illustrated. (Same publishers)
On Duty. By A. Selby. Illustrated. (Same

Playmates and I. By Elizabeth Day.

(Simpkin, Marshall & Co.) Play with your own Marbles, and other Stories.
By J. J. Wright. (Sonnenschein & Co.)
A King and not a King. By M. Spring Rice.

(Same publishers.) Deb and the Duchess. By L. T. Meade. (Hat-

chards.) The Captain of the Wight. By Frank Cowper,

M.A. (Seeley & Co.)
In His Name. By Edward E. Hale. (Same

publishers.) Nearly Bedtime. By H. Mary Wilson. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)

The Children of Blentarn Ghyll. By Mrs. Alfred Hunt. (Same publishers.)

On the Moor. By Mrs. Isla Sitwell. (Same publishers.) the Mutiny Days. By Edith E. Cuthell.

(Same publishers.) By Emma Gellibrand. (Same pub-Cule. lishers.)

The Wrong Turning. By Cecilia Selby Lowndes. (Same publishers.)

Brave Little Couple. (Same author and publishers.) Alpine Climbers. By the Rev. C. H. Chase.

(Same publishers.) Brave Tiny. By F. E. Reade. (Same publishers.)

Polly's Lamps. By Mary Davison. (Same publishers.)

MR. FENN'S book, well illustrated by Mr. Frank Dadd, contains a record of the experiment of a worthy doctor, who takes a lad from the workhouse to educate as a gentleman. The experiment is successful, but the moral is destroyed by the presumed waif turning out to be

a gentleman by birth.
'Anchor and Laurel' is supposed to be a tale of service in the Royal Marines, but as the experience of two generations is recorded before the hero joins that gallant body, the book is a little desultory. Most of it is concerned with a journey down the Danube in 1836.—Arthur Penreath's adventures are supposed to be related by a "gentleman of Sir Walter Ralegh." They will interest boys, but too obviously owe their origin to that best of boys' books 'Westward Ho!' -Mr. Andrés is a curious rhapsody, based partly on the legends of King Arthur, but resembling, as far as nomenclature, &c., is con-cerned, no particular period of history. There is a jester concerned; but the jesting, such as it is, is furnished by the supposed reciter of the romance and his friends who are assembled to

hear it.—'Jack Locke' is a good rattling story of sea life and the French wars which is sure to suit the taste of boys; while 'On Duty' is an excellent moral tale for little girls, and will be none the less a favourite with them in that it gratifies the feminine passion for kilted and scarlet-clad warriors.

'My Playmates and I' is an autobiographical sketch of child life in the country, pleasantly and simply written. Little Elsie's animal stories are charming.—In 'Play with your own Marbles' we have a collection of harmless little "moral"

'A King and not a King' is quite remarkable.

It is a powerful and exceedingly vivid presentation of human life in court guise. We know not the of human life in court guise. We know not the country, we know not the age, yet all is wrought with such skill that the court of King Gabriel is a real court, and his subjects are of our own kin. Joscelyn, the man who was born to be kin, Joscelyn, the man who was born to be king, the stately ministers, the rollicking pages, the good folk of the town, the wild life up in the north, all is lifelike; and the death of Gabriel on the battle-field at the hand of his dearest foe is wonderful in its pathos and restraint.

L. T. Meade's books are usually good reading for children, but 'Deb and the Duchess' is not at all up to her usual standard. Deb is a dear little mortal, though her baby talk, with its phonetic spelling, is occasionally a little wearisome; but the poor Duchess is somewhat unreal and weird, and we are heartily tired of the circus, which is now the fate (in fiction) of all wayward children, and of the infuriated bear which invariably kills or maims these unhappy the Wight is a long and dreary historical romance, plentifully besprinkled with mediæval oaths. The scene is laid at the time of the Wars oaths. He seems is last at the of the wars
of the Roses, and the hero is Sir Edward
Woodville, brother of the queen of Edward IV,
and last lord and captain of the Isle of Wight.
'In His Name' is also a tale of the olden

time—three hundred years older, indeed, than 'The Captain of the Wight,' from which it differ greatly, being simple in style and almost entirely free from archaism. The adventures are thrilling, the interest is well kept up. Mr. Peabody's preface is too enthusiastically laudatory.

The Society for Promoting Christian Know-ledge has had many failures in the way of covers, but this year it deserves praise for issuing a series of little books bound in cheerful and hearty red. We could wish that the insides of these little works were as cheery as the outsides; but, alas! they are doleful in the extreme.
'Nearly Bedtime' is a collection of "Good Night 'chiefly dealing with the pranks and consequent ill luck of mischievous and hapless little people.—Mrs. Alfred Hunt's version of 'The Children of Blentarn Ghyll' is admirable, like all Mrs. Hunt's work, but it must be admitted that the tale is a sad one.—The hero of 'On the Moor' loses himself in a snow-drift.—'In the Mutiny Days' takes us to India in the terrible year of the outbreak.—J. Cole is a fantastic and fascinat-ing page boy, but the fate reserved for him is to be half murdered by a gang of ferocious burglars.

The lads who take "the wrong turning" are, we need scarcely say, lost, while "a brave little couple" show their bravery in presence of the inevitable burglar.—It must be acknowledged that the aforesaid themes are not enlivening.

'Alpine Climbers,' by the Rev. C. H. Chase, is quite a different sort of book. It is a series of short sermons on the religious truths to be gleaned from an Alpine tour, and is a mixture of adventure and unction to our mind most disasteful.—'Brave Tiny' and 'Polly's Lamps, though larger than the afore-mentioned series, are still red and cheerful. They chronicle the not particularly interesting adventures of two poor and good little girls. 188

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OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The reader will be unreasonable who looks for much that is novel in Frederick, Crown Prince and Emperor, by Mr. Rennell Rodd (Stott). Mr. Rodd has wisely not attempted in this little volume anything beyond a brief memoir, and he has written with tact and taste, putting in clear light the many noble qualities of the late Emperor, and yet refraining from anything like undue panegyric. One little anecdote may be quoted. At a village school at Bornstedt which he was in the habit of visiting the then Crown Prince used to question the children. "To what kingdom does this belong?" the Prince had enquired of a little girl, touching a medal suspended to his chain. "To the mineral kingdom," was the answer. "And this?" pointing to a flower. "To the vegetable kingdom." "And I myself," he asked; "to what kingdom do I belong?" "To the kingdom of heaven," was the child's reply." The introduction by the Empress Frederick is a touching composition, and a fitting prelude to the volume. It may be noted that Mr. Rodd prints the famous proclamation the Crown Prince issued on invading France, the genuineness of which has often been denied by Germans, who saw the inconsistency between the declaration that Germany was not at war with the French people and the annexation of Alsace. Mr. Rodd's fairness is conspicuous. The fault of his volume is that, conscious of having to perform a delicate task, he is unnecessarily timid of statement. This he shows even in matters where there is no necessity for such caution. For instance, he says that at Wissembourg "the German troops had undoubtedly outnumbered the French considerably," the fact being that the odds were so tremendous that only the heroic valour of the French infantry made a struggle possible, and General Douay would no doubt have retreated without fighting had he had any notion of the overwhelming force that was advancing to the attack. One or two misprints, such as "Steinmitz" for Steinmetz, should be corrected in the next edition. A more serious slip is that Mr. Rodd has confused

In his account of The Early Writings of W. M. Thackeray (Stock), reprinted, with additions, from the columns of the Athenaum, Mr. C. P. Johnson ranges himself frankly on the side of those who hold that whatever a great writer has written should be made accessible to the world at large, if the world at large be at all disposed to take notice of it. The view is one that we have combated more than once, but (it has to be admitted), all Mr. Johnson's premises being granted, it is sound enough in its way. His attitude, we may further remark, is modest and apologetic. He speaks for "the student, bibliographer, and collector," on whose behalf he considers that "it is not becoming for anybody to say" that these should "be debarred from reading, recording, and possessing even the most juvenile and trivial productions of a great author." Such a public as he describes does unquestionably exist; he belongs to it himself, and in resolving "not selfishly to keep the results of his labours to himself," but to communicate them, in a becoming form and a limited issue, to those "genuine and enthusiastic students" of the master who may be trusted not to take his "small potatoes"—as this one is said to have escribed his juvenilia to an American admirer—for more than their real worth, and in publishing his present volume, he shows that he is anxious to do as he would be done by. He begins by youting a parody of 'The Minstrel Boy'; goes on to reproduce in extenso Thackeray's caricature of the present Laureate's prize poem, an "effusion" which certainly shows that its author had always the satirical habit of mind, but not, we think, that his gift of satire was at the begin-

ning of overwhelming or extraordinary strength; and proceeds to the disinterment of some verses 'To Genevieve,' which are ill-natured and clumsy, and the 'I'd be a Tadpole' lyric, which clumsy, and the 'I'd be a Tadpole' lyric, which is clumsy and ill-natured. It is difficult to see in what way the frame of mind of even the genuine and enthusiastic student can be brightened or improved by the knowledge that Thackeray, whose verse at its best was scarce less exquisite than his prose, could descend to rhyming "pins" and "fins" with "winds," and "bellies" with "fellers"; but he exists, as we have said, and as it is to be assumed that his theory of what is interesting is not as that of others, so it appears to be proved that in Mr. Johnson's discoveries there is the kind of matter which he loves. In his next chapter Mr. Johnson quotes from the National Standard and Journal of Literature, Science, Music, and the Fine Arts the text of Thackeray's translation from (it is Thackeray who speaks) "a very clever French story which is written in a kind of patois," in which, one cannot help reflecting, it might as well have been left. He gives it as "a good specimen of Thackeray's early prose style," which perhaps it is, and which it shows conclusively to have been not particularly good; but he omits, for reasons hard to divine, to reproduce his author's translation of certain verses in patois, which he would have us believe presents "an early example of the fondness that Thackeray showed in after life for introducing a touch of burlesque in a seemingly incongruous manner." Mr. Johnson's remarks on Thackeray's contributions to the Constitutional are much to the point, and what he has to say of Thackeray as a Fraserian will be read with pleasure by others than the genuine and enthusiastic student. His citations from the Times are interesting, and his account of the American editions of Thackeray contains some good and useful bibliography. Decidedly, however, the best feature in his book —which, by the way, is very prettily printed and produced—is the series of portraits with which, owing to this or that person's kindness, he is owing to this or that person's kindness, he is able to present his readers. It includes a plea-sant sketch of Thackeray (at three years old) and his mother, by Chinnery; a clever bust of Thackeray the Carthusian; half a dozen views of Thackeray by Richard Doyle; Chinnery's idea of Thackeray's father; Fred Walker's idea of the Thackeray of the 'Roundabout Papers'; and a capital realization of the Thackeray of the same period as he was caught and rendered by the camera of Dr. Julius Pollock. All these are of uncommon interest, and one is very glad indeed to have them.

LADY MARGARET DOMVILE has in her Life of Lanartine (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.) produced a very well-written history rather of the poet's actual life in the biographical sense than of his works in the critical, though, of course, the biographical sense than of his works in the critical, though, of course, the bit has which the poet's actual life is not at including the course, and the latest which the product is not at the latest actually the course of the cour this latter subject is not entirely ignored. In the case of some poets it would not have been easy to fill four hundred pages without including many letters and without indulging in much criticism. But Lamartine's early travels and the political adventures of his middle life have naturally supplied Lady Margaret with abundance of material. She passes over with a rapidity not surprising those melancholy later years in which he toiled—with little lasting profit to his purse and less to his fame—at never ceasing tasks of what must be almost called hackwork, in a slavery less agonizing indeed than Scott's, but also considerably less heroic and much more prolonged. We are bound to say that the biographer seems to us to make considerably too high an estimate of Lamartine from more points of view than one; but this is a usual and by no means a fatal fault in a biography. The book is also, as we have said, rather unusually well written; but it would have been improved by an index and by occasional references to authorities in notes or otherwise.

Ward & Lock's Illustrated History of England, edited by H. W. Dulcken, Ph.D., is a publi-

cation which promises more than it altogether performs. From the frequency with which obsolete authorities like Sharon Turner and Sir James Mackintosh are quoted in the earlier pages, it may be conjectured that the book is based on some previous work, and a more diligent consultation of the writings of Prof. Freeman and the Bishop of Chester would have been to the advantage of the chapters on the Anglo-Saxon period. The present reign is treated in a temperate spirit, and on the whole with considerable accuracy, though it is a bad blunder to say that the coercion of Mehemet Ali in 1840 was effected by the Western powers, "England, Prance, and Austria." The illustrations might have been better both in conception and execution. Some of the portraits are indifferently engraved, and the number of representations of murders and battles is decidedly too large.

In Mr. Benjamin's Persia (which forms the "The Story of the Nations") an attempt is made to connect the Persia of fable and legend with that of the classic period. The important epoch of the Mohammedan invasion is reached only in the nineteenth or penultimate chapter; while the last two pages of the book contain all that is related of the interval between Nadir's death and the accession of Nasru'd-dín. Per-haps the fitter title to the volume would have been "Prehistoric and Ancient Persia." Benjamin, in his brief preface, explains that his work "differs from other histories.....in giving more proportionate attention to the legendary period.....than is usual.....as well as to the great career of the House of Sassan, which, in the opinion of the author, has never received full justice from those Christian historians who have undertaken a connected history." There is much to be said in favour of this arrangement, and of the mode in which it has been carried out in the present pages; but it is only fair to indicate that in particular parts of the ill-defined narrative our old authority Sir John Malcolm has even more to say than the present narrator. He contrives, for instance, to fill up the space of thirty-eight years between the death of Sapor I. and the birth (and accession) of Sapor II., which is here left almost blank. Three kings only are alluded to in this interval, when there were, apparently, six—one of those omitted being the Baharam (Varanes II.) whose interview with the Emperor Carus is described by Gibbon. Abundant illustrations accompany the text, and acknowledgment is made of the source from which they have been obtained. Those from Malcolm's 'Persia' will be familiar to many readers. Some might have been selected with advantage from the quite recent and very charming contributions to the *Tour du Monde* by Madame Dieulafoy. Notwithstanding the uses and merits of the volume under notice, we still seem to require a popular history of Persia in which the ancient, mediæval, and modern periods are combined, with a fair proportion of space accorded to each.

The usefulness of a little book like Code Wrinkles, by Mr. J. L. Richardson (Philip & Son), depends upon the absolute accuracy of its contents. Unfortunately so many of these "wrinkles" are either inexact or obsolete that school managers and teachers will not find in them altogether trustworthy guidance. The index is copious, but it is arranged in disregard of alphabetical order; whether this is so by accident or design we cannot say—utility, however, is thereby lost.—A much more useful volume is Teaching as a Career for University Men (Rivington), by Mr. J. J. Findlay.—Education of Deaf-Mutes (Wertheimer & Co.), a far larger work than either of the little pamphlets mentioned, is a manual for teachers, excellently designed and executed by Mr. Thomas Arnold. The physiology of the subject is rightly treated of at length. "Phonation" is an ugly word, but the elements of it are well expounded by Mr. Arnold, and the whole volume shows that a

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quarter of a century of experience has not been thrown away on him. In the historical intro-duction the references to Herodotus, Hippocrates, St. Augustine, &c., might very well have been omitted. "Passons au déluge" is a good motto in such matters.

MR. SKINNER has sent us the November issue of his excellent handbook to The London Banks, which have seen several changes in the last six months. Mr. Skinner will, we hope, go out of his way in his next number to deplore the defacement of the Rotunda of the Bank of England, a vandalism now nearly finished.—We have frequently praised and can again praise the admirable Handbook of Jamaica (Stanford) of Mr. Sinclair and Mr. Fyfe.

The British Almanac and Companion (Stationers' Company) appears in a gaudy cover that we do not like so well as its sober livery in former years; but its contents have not suffered by the change.-The neat little volume containing Gilbert's Clergyman's Almanac and Whitaker's Clergyman's Diary has also reached us from the Stationers.—Mr. Pratt, of Sudbury, has sent us that time - honoured annual Fulcher's Ladies'

Memorandum Book, containing a tale by the author of 'Mehalah' and the usual complement of verse.—Messrs. Bemrose have sent us some of their wall calendars and their Monthly Diary; while to Messrs. Griffith & Farran we are in-debted for an assortment of Pettitt's useful calendars and diaries. The Week, one week on each leaf, is a most serviceable form of a wall calendar for office use. The scribbling diaries

also deserve praise.

Among the new editions on our table are one AMONG the new editions on our table are one of the late Miss Keary's excellent volume The Dawn of History (Smith & Innes), which has been edited with skill and care by Mr. C. F. Keary; and a new issue in "Bohn's Select Library" (Bell & Sons) of the Ladies in Parliament and other admirable jeux d'esprit by Sir G. Trevalven. G. Trevelvan.

THE Happy Thoughts Birthday Book (Bradbury, Agnew & Co.), arranged by Miss Burnand, is a happy thought in the way of birthday

books.

WE have received the reports of the free libraries at Leeds, Manchester, Middlesbrough, St. Helens, Watford, and Wolverhampton. tone of the reports from Manchester and St. Helens is cheerful. Mr. Yates, who only reports on the events of one half year at Leeds, studies brevity. His figures are encouraging. At Middles-brough there seems a lack of income. At Watford the report is printed along with a good deal of other matter. The library seems to prosper. We have received catalogues of the lending libraries at Battersea (Lammas Hall Branch), Lambeth (Norwood Branch), and Watford, from Belfast a catalogue of works of art exhibited on loan in the Library.

WE have on our table The Allotments Act, 1887, with Notes, Forms, and Index by W. A. Holdsworth (Routledge), — The Bulgarian and his with Notes, Forms, and Index by W. A. Holdsworth (Routledge), — The Bulgarian and his Neighbours at Home, by a Literary Traveller (Laurie),—A Sketch of the Germanic Constitution, by S. E. Turner (Putnam),—Junior School Arithmetic, Mental and Practical (Longmans),—Arithmetic for Standard I. (Moffatt & Paige),—The Calendar of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, 1888-9 (Manchester, Cornish),—Pictorial and Historical Guide to South Wales (Ward & Lock),—Examples for Practice in the Use of Seven-Figure Logarithms, by J. Wolstenholme (Macmillan),—Field Fortification, by Major H. D. Hutchinson (Chatham, Gale & Polden),—Field Works, by Col. C. B. Brackenbury, R. A. (Kegan Paul),—Reports on the Mining Industries of New Zealand, 1888 (Wellington, N.Z., Didsbury),—The President's Message, 1887, by T. Nast (Putnam),—Coach Trimming, by W. Farr and G. A. Thrupp (Chapman & Hall),—The Tariff History of the United States, by F. W. Taussig (Putnam),—Principles of the Economic Philosophy, by Van

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THE LIBRARY OF THE PEOPLE'S PALACE.

SINCE the foundation of this library, at first housed in the Queen's Hall, was reported, the building designed for it has been completed and formally opened, and the books have been transferred to their permanent home. Those readers of the Athenœum who will take the trouble to journey as far as Mile End will, I think, be greatly pleased with the building itself as well as with the quiet and orderly crowd which fills

it all day long, Sundays included.

The Library Committee have already expressed their gratitude to those—publishers and private persons—who responded so generously to their first appeal for books. Thanks to donations, and without any serious call upon the Trust, there is now a commencement of about Trust, there is now a commencement of about 8000 volumes. These are placed upon shelves in the first gallery. The library, however, could very well find room for 200,000 volumes, or, if the rooms in the basement were used, for double that number. It will be observed that the views of the trustees as to the ultimate development of this library are magnificent. However, without hoping to fill up the shelves for many years to come, we look forward confidently to making before long a collection complete for ordinary students in every branch of learning as well as a library of recreative literature for those-naturally the majority of our readers-who come in the evening for a comfortable place where they may sit in warmth and light over a pleasant book. It is the only place where they can find this happiness. And it is becoming more widely this napplices. And it is becoming more widely known and better appreciated every day, so that we may expect during the winter that the library will be crowded every evening by the working men of the East End. In the name of these people, therefore, I ask permission to beg gifts of books from the readers of the Athenaum.

Our librarian, Miss Constance Black, is engaged upon a classified list of books most urgently wanted in the various branches. This is not yet ready. Meanwhile will any who are friendly disposed towards the Palace note that in history of all kinds—whether of nations, of literature, of art, of biography, or of science—we cannot possibly have enough; that in general literature and belles-lettres duplicates are always welcome; that in foreign literature—French, German, Italian, &c.—there are hardly any books; that in the branch of classical literature we have literally nothing; and that we are very deficient in educational books, and in grammars, dictionaries, and the like? As for novels of the better class, we can hardly have too many; and we can find room for any number of books of travel and adventure. Books on political economy and the social questions of the day are much asked for; and we are anxious to make the technical textbooks as complete as possible.

books as complete as possible.

We have a small lending library for the boys of the school. It is designed to fit up one of the "social rooms" as a reading-room for the "lady members," and in time, when the library is big enough, it is hoped to make it a lending library to the general public.

library to the general public.

Seeing, therefore, the omnivorous condition of our library, we earnestly beg your readers to send us of their superfluities, not pausing to consider whether this book or that is likely to be suitable, but sending everything, and leaving to the librarians the task of deciding whether or no a proffered book may be accepted or con-

signed to the rubbish heap.
WALTER BESANT,
Chairman, Library Committee, People's Palace.

MR. SAUNDERS'S CHAUCER.

In 1845 was published in Charles Knight's "Cabinet" series a little work in two volumes under the title of Canterbury Tales from Chaucer,' by John Saunders. It has never been reprinted, and appears to have passed completely out of notice. But it stands alone as the best popular introduction to the study of the 'Canterbury

Tales' which has ever appeared. And it supplies, as no other work can do, what I can testify is just now greatly needed, some means of facilitating the study of the 'Canterbury Tales' as pictures of life and works of art, and of bringing home to students of Early English Chaucer's extraordinary merits as a poet, as an artist, and as an ethical teacher. I do not know whether Mr. Saunders is living now; but it is with the hope that he is, and that if this should meet his eye he may be induced to reprint his valuable little work, that I have thus ventured to intrude on you.

J. Churton Collins.

M. ARSÈNE DARMESTETER.

The autumn of 1888 will long be mournfully remembered at the Sorbonne. The loss of Abel Bergaigne has been followed three months later by the scarcely less sudden death of Arsène Darmesteter.

Arsène Darmesteter was born at Château Salins in Lorraine on January 5th, 1846. His father descended from a Jewish family who, about the time of the French Revolution, left Darmstadt for Lorraine, His mother, by birth a Brandeis of Prague, was the granddaughter of a Cabbalist still famous among the Jews of Central Europe. There were three brothers: Achille, a marvellous boy, born in 1838, stricken suddenly down in his fourteenth year by a congestion of the brain; Arsène, born in 1846; James, born in 1849. Arsène began his studies at the village school, but after the death of Achille their home at Château Salins became intolerable to the bereaved parents. They moved to Paris. The father set up as a bookbinder (he had been a bookseller in Château Salins), and found in his new home the means to maintain his family. Arsène at six years old went to the primary school of the quarter. There the child distinguished himself at once. In a short time he had mastered all the school could teach him. At home he devoured the books given to his father to bind, and the customers of Darmesteter, acto bind, and the customers of Darmesteter, acquainted with the reason why their books took so long to bind, began to talk of this unusual child. The Hebrew consistory became interested in his education, and placed him in a private school, half classical, half theological, where Ovid and Homer took their place beside the Calbudge and where Arabna and where Arabna and where Arabna Cabbalists and the Talmud, and where Arsène Darmesteter received a fair classical education and an excellent drilling in Hebrew and Jewish theology. At sixteen he passed successfully the Baccalauréat-ès-Lettres, and his licentiate at eighteen years of age. His parents had destined him for the Jewish Church; but the young man nim for the Jewish Univer; but the young man felt more and more clearly that his true vocation lay elsewhere. Gradually he abandoned the thought of becoming a rabbi; but the study of Hebrew still remained his dearest pursuit, and he projected for his doctor's thesis an essay on the rebellion of Bar-Cocheba.

But his Hebrew studies, by a singular détour, were to lead him to his true career as a student of mediæval languages of Latin origin. In studying the Hebrew commentaries written by the French rabbis of the Middle Ages, and in especial by the famous Raschi of Troyes, Arsène Darmesteer had been struck by the quantity of laz, or French glosses, inserted in the Hebrew text. There he perceived the materials for a dictionary of the French language of the eleventh century — a period almost entirely destitute of documents. He set to work upon the printed text. But soon it became clear to him that in order to satisfy himself he must consult the original manuscripts, frequently corrupted in the printing, and that, moreover, he must study Old French. His was not a nature to shrink before difficulties. He began immediately to work at palæography at the Ecole des Chartes. At the Salle Gerson he learned from Gaston Paris the new methods of philology. At the same time he set himself to collect the French glosses of Raschi, consulting

all the known manuscripts, firstly those of Paris, then, in turn, those of London, Oxford, Turin, and Parma—more than three hundred manuscripts, a prodigious labour. He returned to Paris enriched with a noble spoil, more than twenty thousand words, all of that Old French utterly lost in France, miraculously found again in the literature of a proscribed and persecuted race. The fecundity of this undreamed-of source was soon to be shown by his publication of the elegies of the Vatican — French elegies transcribed in Hebrew characters, composed to commemorate the great auto de fé of Troyes, April 24th, 1288. The first in date of these elegies, discovered in the Vatican by Dr. Neubauer, is a most beautiful relic of the medieval literature of France. Arsène Darmesteter, by his double knowledge of Hebrew and Old French, was the only man in Europe capable of deciphering and restoring the texts of Dr. Neubauer's discovery.

In 1872 Areène Darmesteter was appointed teacher at the École des Hautes Études of languages derived from the Latin. Little by little he concentrated all his energies on French. In 1877 his doctor's thesis on the formation of new words in French made an epoch in philology. A public of scholars, scandalized at first by his quotations from Zola and other unclassical writers, soon did justice to the depth, the penetration, the width of view, the firmness of handling, and the peculiar subtlety of sentiment which distinguish Arsène Darmesteter's work. Since then philology has heard no more of the dogma which denied to France that power of creating new words so freely attributed to Teutonic languages. The first result of this essay was to establish Arsène Darmesteter at the Sorbonne as Lecturer on Mediaval French Language and Literature. He became at once the recognized authority on this subject. He lectured at the École Normale for a year. When the Girton of France, the College of Sèvres, was founded, he was immediately called upon to help in the work; till the week before his death he taught there; and among the many mourners round his grave last Sunday there was a company of girls from Sèvres.

The dictionary of the eleventh century had sunk into the background. Never forgotten, it took the second place. Another dictionary absorbed his attention. In 1872 he began, in collaboration with M. A. Hatzfeld, a dictionary of the French language which, for the first time, should give not only the history of the form of words, but the history of the changes and development of their meaning, through all the diversities of modern, medieval, and ancient French down to the original Low Latin. All the delicacy, all the irony, of what has aptly been called the genius of a language, becomes apparent under this treatment; and the researches of Arsène Darmesteter brought him continual discoveries alike in the science of phonetics and in the development of meaning. His little volume known to English readers as 'The Life of Words' ('La Vie des Mots') has rapidly become a classic. Within its slender limits it contains a whole philosophy of language.

Scholars will remember Arsène Darmesteter as the great lexicographer who died a few months before the finishing of an unparalleled undertaking, as the author of Darmesteter's Law ("la chute des proxytones atones"), as the restorer of mediseval French, and as the founder of the system of French grammar, which he developed in a brilliant course of lectures at Sèvres. To a nearer circle he leaves a more intimate memory; a manner of simple gaiety and feeling, a character of profound loyalty and unselfishness, an absolute simplicity and truthfulness, rendered him the most lovable of friends. No man had a more perfect home, a closer circle of loving companionship. In 1877 he had married the sister of the brilliant Senior Wrangler, Numa Hartog. Eleven years of happiness came to an end a week ago.

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Arsène Darmesteter died in harness. Three years ago an affection of the heart warned him of the end. He worked too hard; he knew it; he would not slacken. "In our age," he used to say, "where so much has to be founded, so much to be organized, no efficient worker has a right to reserve for himself the strength of his soul and his life." So he laboured on, spending himself without stint. On the 6th of November he took cold at the Baccalauréat examination of the Sorbonne. What at first appeared a slight gastric chill developed on the 13th into congestion of the lungs. Even then he did not appear in danger. But the fever increased; endocarditis set in; on the 15th he became suddenly very ill, and a little after midnight between the 15th and 16th he passed very quietly away. Almost his last words were for the dictionary which he did not live to see completed.

Literary Gossip.

The rumour that has recently been circulated by several papers to the effect that Mr. Frank Harris has resigned, or is about to resign, the editorship of the Fortnightly Review is, we are asked to state, wholly without foundation. Mr. Frank Harris neither had nor has any intention of resigning the editorship.

Mr. Gardner, of Paisley, is going to publish next month a new book by Mr. Walt Whitman called 'November Boughs.' Among the papers collected in the volume are 'The Bible as Poetry,' 'The Spanish Element in our Nationality,' 'What Lurks behind Shakspere's Historical Plays?' 'A Thought on Shakspere,' 'Robert Burns as Poet and Person,' 'A Word about Tennyson,' 'Slang in America,' and 'An Indian Bureau Reminiscence.'

A SECOND edition of 'Thoth' is on the point of appearing, in the preface to which the writer says it was a mistake on the part of several reviewers of the book to say that because 'Thoth' appeared after 'She,' therefore it was an imitation of 'She':—

"For, as a matter of fact, 'Thoth' was designed and in part composed more than twelve signed and in part composed more than twelve years ago. In its present form, however, it has been entirely rewritten.....The original idea was.....to illustrate the power of will and intellect working through generations with a definite design, and to show that this power might be used for the most repulsive object. The object I chose for my purpose was the destruction of the whole human race by means of pestilences, with the intention of replacing it with a race of men who had for generations been trained in the exercise of the highest intelligence. The new rule was to be a tyranny of intellect. The original designer of this scheme was supposed to be an Egyptian, who had discovered a method of suspending animation.The defeat of the scheme in the original plan was due to the friendship of the latest Thoth for Philetos. Philetos was, in marked contrast to these haters of men, a man whom every one loved, and who was the beau idéal of a philanthropist. Thus the victory over hate in the original plan was gained by friendship...... After writing a considerable part of 'Thoth' on this plan, I became dissatisfied for several reasons. In the first place, friendship alone, though in the ancient world one of the strongest passions, did not seem as I worked it out strong enough for my purpose. I had introduced also, in the last scene, a supernatural element of a purely imaginary kind, and I heartily disliked the deus ex machina even when of my own making. I also considered the style inflated and the characters far too abstract. The original idea, however, seemed worth developing, and when I took it up again after an interval of ten years, I substituted Daphne and love for Philetos and friendship, and put more of the elements of common humanity into the characters. I discarded the supernatural altogether, for however wonderful Thoth's powers are, there is nothing beyond the possibility of modern science."

That indefatigable champion of the Celt Mr. A. Mackenzie, of Inverness, who has done so much to illustrate the annals of his native country, has now in the press his 'History of the MacLeods,' which for the last three years and a half has been passing through the Celtic Magazine and the Scottish Highlander. It has since been revised and largely extended, for publication in a separate volume, uniform with the author's excellent histories of the MacKenzies, MacDonalds, and Camerons, and it is to be out early next year.

The December number of the "Camelot Series" will consist of a collection of essays by Mr. James Russell Lowell. For this volume Mr. Lowell has written an introduction which he terms "an apology for a preface." The essays included are those on Spenser, Shakspeare, Milton, Keats, Wordsworth, Lessing, and Rousseau. This is the second collection of Mr. Lowell's essays which has appeared in this series.

THE Council of the Derbyshire Archeological Society have approved of a project for the formation of an affiliated Record Society for the county of Derby. A committee has been nominated—consisting of Sir George Sitwell, Bart., F.S.A.; the Rev. Dr. Cox, F.S.A.; Mr. R. C. Hope, F.S.A.; the Rev. C. Kerry; and Mr. Arthur Cox—to issue a circular and to take necessary steps for its establishment. A meeting of the Middlesex County Record Society is to be held on Tuesday afternoon at the Royal Institution.

THE Bishop of Ripon is unable to address the Browning Society on Friday next, but will probably be able to do so early next year. An ordinary meeting of the society will take place on the date named, when a paper by Miss Ormerod will be read.

WE are requested to say that Mrs. Richard will be much obliged to any friends of the late Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., with whom he may have corresponded on public affairs, if they will favour her with the temporary loan of such letters, or copies of them, as might be of service in the preparation of a biography, addressed to 22, Bolton Gardens, South Kensington, S.W.

TILLOTSON & Son's programme for next year for the newspaper press contains new serial stories, to commence in January, by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, the Rev. S. Baring Gould (author of 'Mehalah'), and Miss Dora Russell; in February a serial by Mr. G. A. Henty, in March one by Miss Adeline Sergeant, in June stories by Miss Jessie Fothergill and Mr. Hall Caine, and later on by Mr. W. E. Norris, Mr. Joseph Hatton, Mr. Thomas Hardy, Mrs. Hungerford (the author of 'Molly Bawn'), Mr. D. Christie Murray, Mr. Clark Russell, and Mrs. Oliphant. The stories by Mrs. Hodgson Burnett, Mr. Baring Gould, Miss Fothergill, and Mr. Norris are the first these authors have written expressly for newspaper publication. In addition to the serial

stories Messrs. Tillotson & Son will supply a series of short tales.

Mss. Mona Caird, who has become known in connexion with the question of the law of marriage, has finished a new novel, which, under the title 'The Wing of Azrael,' will be issued early in 1889 by Messrs. Trübner. Mrs. Caird has already published two novels pseudonymously, 'Whom Nature Leadeth' and 'One that Wins.' 'The Wing of Azrael,' though not polemical, deals indirectly with the question raised in the recent correspondence in the Daily Telegraph.

MR. COURTNEY'S 'Life of John Stuart Mill,' which will form the next volume of the "Great Writers" series, will be published early in December. It will contain, besides other judgments on Mill, a letter from Mr. Gladstone on Mill's career in Parliament.

THE Commissioners of Clerkenwell Free Public Library opened on Tuesday a news-room in their temporary premises at 19, Tysoe Street, W.C. This is preliminary to the erection of a permanent library building, on a site granted at a nominal rent by the Skinners' Company, which will include lending and reference departments, reading-room, and newsroom. The site of the library is at the corner of Skinner and Whiskin Streets, and is within a short distance of the Vestry Hall. In aid of the library Capt. Penton, M.P., and Mr. R. M. Holborn have given donations amounting to 600*l*. each, and other gentlemen have presented valuable books.

THE December number of Time will take the form of a Christmas annual, under the title 'Up the Ladder.' It will contain a poem by Sir Edwin Arnold, and stories by Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A., Mrs. Molesworth, and other writers.

THAT venerable work 'The Parents' Cabinet,' first published more than fifty years ago, is to be revived, and a new edition of it issued.

MR. HALE WHITE writes :-

"Some three or four years ago I pointed outin your columns the extraordinary number
of printer's errors in Prof. Knight's edition of
Wordsworth. I did not compare it critically
with any other edition, but the casual reading of
one volume alone disclosed twenty or thirty
blunders, and on p. 320, vol. vi., a whole line
has been omitted from one of the sonnets. It is
more than two years since the last volume was
published, and in the preface to it Prof. Knight
announced a biography, of which, however, we
have no further intelligence. He would be doing
no more than simple justice to those persons
who have bought his expensive book if he would
issue a list of errata, the result of careful revision;
and if the biography, with which it might appear,
is not forthcoming, the list should be issued by
itself, for as it now stands this handsome edition
is worthless."

WE are requested by Miss Laura A. Smith, author of 'The Music of the Waters,' to state that the song "Oh, Amble is a fine town," contained in the abovenamed work, is only in part ancient; the first three stanzas being written by Mr. W. E. Henley in 1878, as an addition to the final stanza and the refrain, and may be found in a book of verses by that author.

MRS. BRAY, the writer of a novel called 'Branded,' which we reviewed at the be-

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ginning of the month, complains that we spoiled the rhythm of one of her lines by transposing a word. It should run :-I follow ever where my kidlings stray.

A NEW monthly illustrated magazine, entitled the Gospel Argosy, is announced for the 1st of January by Mr. Elliot Stock.

Among the authors who are candidates for election next Monday to the School Board of London are Mrs. Webster (undoubtedly the most considerable poet among Englishwomen since Mrs. Browning), Sir R. Temple, and Dr. Gladstone, and Mr. E. Petherick, the editor of the Torch.

THE completion of the ninth edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' will be celebrated by a dinner given by the editor, Mr. Robertson Smith, at Cambridge next month.

Some time ago we announced the plan of converting the Academy of Lausanne into a university, and now we learn that the first steps for carrying out that project have been taken. At the same time we learn that the canton of Fribourg has assigned in the budget for 1889 the sum of two and a half millions of francs for the establishment of a Roman Catholic university at the capital of the canton.

MR. W. SMITH is going (in case of sufficient support being accorded to the venture) to commence a new series of 'Old Yorkshire,' to be conducted on the same lines as

MESSRS. SIMPKIN, MARSHALL & Co. will publish in a few days vol. i. of 'North Country Poets,' edited by Mr. William Andrews, president of the Hull Literary Club. It will include biographies of fifty of the leading modern poets of the six northern counties of England.

THE Greek Premier, M. Tricoupis, is publishing at Athens a complete edition of his political speeches. The collection is divided into three parts, 1864-1875, 1875-1880, 1880-1888. The first volume appeared last month.

On the 29th of August next year the Journal des Débats will have been a hundred years in existence. Unlike other newspapers, its daily impressions are not numbered, so the reader looks in vain on the front sheet for evidence of its age. Though founded in August, 1789, the Débats did not attain a leading place amongst French newspapers till some time after it had become the property of the brothers Bertin, who bought it in 1799. It has had an eventful career, and, as Lamartine wrote, its history during sixty years forms a part of the history of France. It is still regarded as a sort of stepping-stone or ante-chamber to the French Academy on account of the large number of its eminent contributors who have become Academicians. An historical account of the paper will be issued in celebration of its

Benjamin Herder, the head of the large publishing firm at Freiburg in the Breisgau, died in that city on November 10th. well-known Roman Catholic publishing house was founded by Bartholomaus Herder in 1801 at Meersburg, on the Lake of Constance, and was removed to Freiburg in 1810.

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week are Local Government Boundaries, Report of Commissioners, 2 vols., with

Diagrams (21. 10s.); Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, Statutes (3d.); Africa, No. 5, Niger Territories, Import and Export Duties (1d.); Africa, No. 6, Suppression of Slave Trade in East African Waters, Correspondence (1d.); New Guinea, Government of, and Instructions, &c. (3d.); Science and Art Department, Correspondence with Treasury (4d.); and Consular Reports— United States, Agriculture of New York, &c., for 1888 (2d.); Belgium, Agriculture of Antwerp for 1887-8 (1d.).

SCIENCE

REPORTS.

Sixth Annual Report of the U.S. Geological Survey. By J. W. Powell. (Washington, Government Printing Office.)—The Sixth Report of the Director of the United States Geological Survey, dealing with the operations of that department during the year 1884-5, has reached us. Like its predecessors, it is a hand-some volume of nearly six hundred pages, with numerous maps and plates of fossils and panoramic landscapes, illustrating memoirs on the Zuñi Plateau in New Mexico, the driftless area of the Upper Mississippi valley, the use of the microscope in the quantitative assay of silver, the sea coast swamps of the Eastern United States, and a synopsis of the flora of the Laramie group. These contributions form the "accompanying papers" to the Report of the Director and those of the administrative heads of divisions. The progress made by this, the youngest of the great national surveys of the youngest of the great national surveys of the world is very remarkable. Under the able management of Major J. W. Powell it is now occupied in carrying on investigations in the Central and Atlantic States as well as in those west of the Rocky Mountains and on the Pacific, to which the operations were at first confined, and as a result of four years' preliminary study a plan has been elaborated for the preparation of a general map of the United States, which is to be plotted on a uniform system and published on three different scales, approximately of 1 in., ½ in., and \$ in. to the mile, according to the relative importance of the area represented. The basis is a trigonometrical survey executed on a scale sufficiently refined for map-making without going into the refinements required for geodetic purposes, and the hypsometry is based upon the levels of the railway lines of the country. The work already done in the older states—as for instance in New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts-is utilized, and by a friendly co-operation with the state authorities, their material, whether published or not, will be incorporated with the general map. The valuable work done by the United States Coast Survey along the eastern side of the Appalachian range is also brought into use. The general topographic survey is executed by twenty-seven parties working in different portions of the country. The finished map is intended to be divided into sheets, each including one degree both of latitude and longitude on the smallest scale, while on the ½ in. scale the same area will make four and on the 1 in. scale sixteen sheets. When it is remembered that the United States extend from 25° to 49° north latitude and from 67° to 128° west longitude, it will be seen that this cartographic enterprise will be one of the very largest among similar undertakings. During the year under review 57,508 square miles were surveyed, principally on the $\frac{1}{2}$ in. and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. scale, the average cost of the work being about 12s. 6d. per square mile. The total outlay of the Survey for the year is about 100,000l., and, judging from the Report, Uncle Sam appears to get good value for his outlay. Not the least pleasing feature of the work is the ready cooperation which the Survey corps obtain from

other scientific workers, whose resources are utilized whenever it is necessary to complete the work in any special department.

Fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, 1882-83. By J. W. Powell, Director. (Washington, Government Printing Office.)— Major Powell has a good report to give of the manner in which he and his learned assistants expend the 35,000 dollars with which they are annually entrusted. During the year in question a staff was organized for a comprehensive ex-amination of mounds and other ancient works east of the Rocky Mountains, under the superintendence of Prof. Cyrus Thomas, and by this means over 4,100 specimens were obtained and placed in the National Museum; the director prepared a scheme of conventions for the archæo-logical cartography of North America, finding that the symbols in general use in Europe were not available on account of the different phenomena of the two continents; Mr. James Stevenson, with a party of assistants, explored the cave and cliff dwellings of Arizona and New Mexico; Mr. T. H. Cushing studied the social organizations of the Zuñi Indians of New Mexico, Mr. Mindeleff those of the Moki of Arizona; the Rev. J. O. Dorsey, Mrs. E. A. Smith, Dr. W. J. Hoffman, and Dr. Washington Matthews were engaged in linguistic "field work." In addition engaged in linguistic "field work." In addition to these external missions, many of the director's assistants were engaged at his office in the preassistants were engaged at his office in the pre-paration of dictionaries, bibliographies, cata-logues, reports, &c. All this is told in detail in a business-like report of sixty-three pages. The larger portion of the portly volume before us consists of the papers printed to accompany the director's report. These deal with two important subjects, pictographs and pottery. The treatise by Col. Garrick Mallery on the pictographs of the North American Indians is modestly called a "preliminary paper." It occupies 256 pages, and is illustrated by 83 plates and 209 woodcuts. Col. Mallery was fortunate enough in 1876 to meet with a pictorial calendar, or "winter count," kept by the Dakota Indians for the seventy-one years commencing with the winter of 1800, in which each year is represented by a figure of the principal event that happened in it. It was drawn on a buffalo robe by Lone Dog, an aged Indian, and a duplicate made on a strip of cotton cloth, from which a copy was taken by Lieut. Reed, an officer of Col. Mallery's regiment, and printed in the Bulletin of the United States Geological and Geographical Survey. Since then another similar chart has been discovered, made and kept by Bo i de, the Flame or the Blaze, another Dakota Indian, which commences as early as 1786, and is continued to 1876, and another kept by the Swan, a Minneconjou chief, on the dressed skin of an antelope or deer, which belong to the same series as that of Lone Dog; while several charts of a different series, going as far back as 1775, have been discovered and described by Dr. W. H. Corbusier. Collated facsimiles and interpretations of all these are given in the paper. Another remarkable series of pictographs of which coloured facsimiles are given is a roster of the heads of families, eighty-four in number, belonging to the band or clan of Chief Big-Road of the Ogalala tribe. They are divided into sub-bands under subordinate chiefs, who are distinguished by having before them decorated pipes. Over each head is, as a sort of crest, the totem or figure representing the name by which the individual is known. Another similar document, also represented in facsimile, is a census of his adherents taken by Red-Cloud about two years ago. From these and many other sources Col. Mallery deduces the history and evolution of pictographs and the purposes for which they have been employed, giving a wise caution against forced interpretations, and urging that the practical use, and not any supposed occult significance, should be sought for. On the subject of tattooing and marks on the

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human person he furnishes much original information. The papers on the subject of pottery are four in number: three by Mr. W. H. Holmes and one by Mr. F. H. Cushing. Mr. Holmes's are respectively on the pottery of the ancient Pueblos, the ancient pottery of the Mississippi valley, and the origin and development of form and adornment in ceramic art; Mr. Cushing's and adornment in ceramic art; hr. Cushing's is a study of Pueblo pottery as illustrative of Zuni culture growth. They are illustrated by 355 figures. In the third paper Mr. Holmes sums up the conclusions at which he has arrived from the investigations described in detail in his two other papers and in previous publications. He suggests imitations of natural originals, as the gourd and the conch-shell, as an early development of form, followed by imitations of artificial objects, as of vessels of stone, wood, horn, bark, or wicker. Modifications arise by adventition or by intention. The evolution of ornament follows much the same course. The guilloche he would trace to the imitation of twisted fillets of wood, cane, or rushes; the scroll to a simple coil of clay. Mr. Cushing pursues the same subject, and very ingeniously works out the relation of pottery to basket work and the development of decorative symbolism. An interesting chapter is added on the evolution of the Indian communal dwelling. Major Powell remarks that "the results of all the studies made by the writers in this volume and their co-labourers in the Bureau favour the view of a continuity of the pre-Columbian population of North America, subject to known evolutionary laws, as against cataclysmic theories postulating intrusive or extinct races, such as the supposi-titious mound-builders or cliff-dwellers." In this declaration of faith the American authorities are in full accord with the current of enlightened opinion in this country. We are aware that there a strong sentiment in the scientific circles of some of the states of the Union against the centralization in the Bureau of Ethnology at Washington of national anthropological work, and we on this side of the Atlantic are, perhaps, not competent to form a judgment on this ques-tion; but we may at least say that those who advocate the present system need desire no stronger argument in support of their views than that which is afforded by the periodical publication by the Bureau of works of so much scientific interest and permanent value as the one before us.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

Dr. Nanssen may be congratulated upon having successfully crossed Southern Greenland. After battling for twelve days with the ice floes a landing was effected on the east coast in lat. 61° N., or sixty miles further south than was originally intended. On August 15th the party of explorers started in a north-westerly direction for Godthaab, where they arrived on October 3rd all in good health. The greatest height reached was 10,000 ft.

Von Hankau nach Su-tschou, by Herm. ichaelis (Petermann's Mitteilungen, Supple-Michaelis (Petermann's Mitteilungen, ment No. 91), is a substantial contribution to the geography of China. The author, a civil engineer, appears to have been entrusted by the Viceroy Tso-tsu tang with an examination of the route which connects Hankau on the Yang-tzekiang with Su-chou, on the borders of the Gobi. The present publication, however, resembles rather a narrative of travel than an official report, and furnishes the most varied information on a considerable portion of interior China. The maps, prepared by Dr. B. Hassenstein, are on a

Prof. Vámbéry, in an article entitled 'La Russie et l'Angleterre dans l'Asie Centrale,' published in the Revue de Géographie, describes the present relations between the two great Asiatic empires as "a treacherous sleep brought about by diplomatic trickery (artifices)," which can never deceive an "objective onlooker" like himself. In the same periodical will be found an interesting monograph on the Monserrat in

The complicated question of the tides of the Euripus, which has puzzled the learned for twenty centuries, is fully dealt with in Petermann's Mitteilungen by Prof. Krümmel, who bases his discussion upon tidal observations carried on by Admiral A. Mansell and by Capt. A. Miaulis, an accomplished officer of the Greek navy. The explanation of this phenomenon offered in 1879 by M. Forel is fully sustained. In the same number of the Mitteilungen will be found an account of the Lake of Tacarigua in Northern Venezuela, by Baron E. von Hesse-Wartegg, and a statistical description of the Fiji Islands, by A. Vollmer.

PROF. KJERULF.

Norwegian science has lost one of its most eminent professors by the recent death of Dr. Theodor Kjerulf. Born in Christiania on March 30th, 1825, Prof. Kjerulf had reached March 30th, 1825, Prof. Kjeruif had reached the age of sixty-three. In early life he travelled much in Norway with Jörgen Moe, who was collecting folk-lore, and in Iceland, Tyrol, and in other parts of Europe, whereby he acquired a great fund of geological knowledge. In 1850 he became attached to the geological department of the University of Christiania, and, after passing through various positions, became professor At the same time he received the appointment of Director of the Geological Survey of Norway. In 1856 he published his great work entitled 'Das Christiania-Silurbecken,' and in 1879 his 'Udsigt over det sydlige Norges The latter was accompanied by a fine geological map of Southern Norway, the northern part having been surveyed by his friend Tellef Dahll, who survives him. Among Prof. Kjerulf's popular writings should be mentioned his 'Stenriget og Fjeldlæren,' which has passed through several editions. The deceased professor was not only a copious contributor to scientific literature, but a man of much general culture-a poet, a musician, and a lover of the fine arts.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Nov. 15.—Prof. G. G. Stokes, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'Combustion in Dried Oxygen,' by Mr. H. B. Baker,—'On the Mechanical Conditions of a Swarm of Meteorites, and on Theories of Cosmogony,' by Prof. G. H. Darwin,—'On the Secretion of Saliva, chiefly on the Secretion of Saliva, chiefly on the Secretion of Salts in It,' by Messrs. J. N. Langley and H. M. Fletcher,—and 'Observations upon the Electromotive Changes in the Mammalian Spinal Cord following Electrical Excitation of the Cortex Cerebri,' preliminary notice, by Mr. F. Gotch and Prof. Horsley.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Nov. 9.—Mr. W. H. M. Christie, Astronomer Royal, in the chair.—Messrs. F. Bolton, A. C. C. Crommelin, and A. H. Leahy were elected Fellows.—Mr. J. Roberts read a paper on an instrument he had devised for measuring and engraving copies of stellar photographs. The diameters of the photographic star dises are measured by means of a micrometer, which is connected with a graving tool way in cover a copper plate so that a swing photographic star discs are measured by means of a micrometer, which is connected with a graving tool moving over a copper plate, so that a small circle is drawn on the copper plate corresponding with the size of the photographic star disc, and the position of the star is also accurately registered on the copper plate.—The Astronomer Royal in summing up the discussion on the paper said that for ordinary purposes photo-lithographic copies from the negatives would be cheaper to produce, but they would probably not contain the most minute stars shown on the negative, and for these we must rely on some method of copying like that proposed by Mr. Roberts. There would always be some difficulty with lithographic copies in distinguishing whether a speck represented a small star or grain of dust on the original negative.—Prof. Pritchard read a paper on recent investigations made at the Oxford Observatory on stellar parallax. He said that one of the advantages of the photographic method of determining stellar parallax lay in the fact that there was a greater chance of distinguishing absolute parallax from the relative parallax measured from one or two small stars in the neighbourhood. It might turn out that the small stars were really near to the star whose parallax

was being measured, in which case the parallax of both the principal star and reference star would be about equal, and the relative parallax would then be nothing. Hitherto it had been too readily assumed that small stars must be more distant than larger ones; but the facts already known with regard to the stars whose parallax has been determined shows that parallax does not by any means correspond with magnitude; for example, 61 Cygni, a star of the seventh magnitude, has a greater parallax than a Lyrre, a star which is brighter than the first magnitude.—Mr. Inwards read a paper on a compensating pendulum of very simple construction. The swinging pendulum consists of a steel rod and steel sphere. The rod is suspended by a spring, which is clasped between jaws held in a sliding block of metal, which moves vertically in a groove below the point of suspension. As the temperature varies the sliding block is moved up and down, so that the spring is clasped by the jaws at a different height; for the sliding block is attached to a zinc column, the length of which can be adjusted by a delicate screw.—The following papers were presented: 'On Results of Micrometric Comparisons of Jupiter and §1 Scorpii in May, 1883, by Mr. J. Tebbutt,—'On Height of Perseid Fireball,' by Mr. W. F. Denning,—'Note on the Occultation of & Orionis, oct. 24th, 1888, 'by Rev. A. Freeman,—'On the Spectra of R Cygni and Mira Ceti and some Stars with Probably Similar Spectra,' by Rev. T. E. Espin,—'Ephemerides of the Satellites of Saturn, 1888-89,' and 'Ephemeris for Physical Observations of the Moon, 1889, January 1st to April 1st,' by Mr. A. Marth,—'Observations of Comet a, 1888 (Barnard), made at the Radeliffe Observatories, with Constants useful in correcting Extra Meridian Observations of Parallax,' by Lieut. General Tennant,—'Observations of Comet a, 1888 (Barnard), made at Stonyhurst, by Rev. S. J. Perry,—and 'Observations of Comet a, 1888 (Barnard), made at Stonyhurst, by Rev. S. J. Perry,—and 'Observations of Comet a, 1888 (Barnard), mad

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE. — Nov. 21.— Dr. W. Knighton, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. W. J. Dixon read a paper On Carlyle the Historian.

Dr. W. Knighton, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. W. J. Dixon read a paper 'On Carlyle the Historian.'

NUMISMATIC.—Nov. 15.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Col. C. I. Wright and Messrs. L. A. D. Montague, E. Thurston, and G. H. Humphries were elected Members, and the name of Mr. T. E. Tatton was proposed.—Mrs. Evans exhibited a bond for 30 piastres, inscribed in Arabic, 'This amount will be paid at the Treasury of Khartoum or at Cairo six months after 25th April, 1884." and bearing the stamp or seal of the late General Gordon, with his signature.—Mr. Durlacher exhibited a gold crown of Elizabeth with the portcullis mint-mark.—Mr. H. Montagu read a paper on the half-noble of the third coinage of Edward III. in his own collection, a coin of which no other specimen was known to the author.—Mr. A. J. Evans read the first portion of a paper on the coinage of Tarentum, in which he attempted to arrange the series of Tarentine didrachms presenting equestrian types in definite chronological periods. In undertaking this the author had used as the basis of his researches the materials supplied by several recent finds of Tarentine coins which had passed through his hands. The new standpoints thus acquired had enabled him, while dating a large number of types with greater precision, to discover, in the types and associated symbols, new historical allusions analogous to that supplied by the Pyrrhic elephant on one of the later coins. Several types were brought into relation with the Spartan alliance under King Archidamus, and in particular it was shown that a whole series of coins exhibiting in the field a seated eagle with folded wings were struck under the hegemony of the Molossian Alexander, and on that account bore the symbol of the Dodonæan Zeus. The author also advanced some new views regarding the signatures on the Tarentine coins. The abbreviated signatures of the earlier period were referred by him to the actual die engravers; those, on the other hand, which began to appear in a more or less full-length form towards of the earlier period were referred by many actual die engravers; those, on the other hand, which began to appear in a more or less full-length form towards the end of the fourth century were the pames of magistrates. Mr. Evans follows the names of magistrates. form towards the end of the fourth century were certainly the names of magistrates. Mr. Evans followed Mommsen in regarding the didrachm as the νοῦμμος (nummus) of Aristotle (ap. Pollux)—A short discussion followed, in the course of which Dr. B. V. Head said that on one point he was inclined to differ from Mr. Evans, and to look upon the "nummus" not as the didrachm, but as a small coin corresponding very closely with the Roman nummus or sestertius; in support of which theory (first started by Prof. Gardner) he cited the 'Tabulæ Heracleenses,' in which a fine of ten silver nummi for each plant is ordered to be paid by a tenant omitting to plant the full number of olive trees specified in the contract by which he held his land. Dr. Head said that such a fine would have

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been exorbitant if the nummus had been identical with the didrachm, whereas supposing it to have been the diobol it would not appear to be excessive.

LINNEAN.—Nor. 15.—Mr. W. Carruthers, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. W. Stroud was elected a Fellow.—On behalf of Mr. H. Bolus, Mr. J. G. Baker exhibited a specimen of Eriospermum folio-liferum, a plant showing a very remarkable type of leaf structure. It was figured by Andrews in his Botanists' Repository' in 1807, and lost sight of until recently refound by Mr. Bolus in Namaqua Land.—Prof. Stewart exhibited a substance which had been picked up on the seashore, the nature of which it had puzzled many to determine, its structure being regarded by some as animal, by others as vegetable. He proposed to submit it to careful microscopical examination.—Mr. J. E. Harting exhibited a South American bat from Trinidad, Noctilio leporinus, alleged to be of piscivorous habits, and remarked upon a similar habit which had been observed in a species of Pteropus in India.—A paper was read by Mr. B. D. Jackson, on behalf of Mr. H. C. Hart, 'On the Mountain Range of Plants in Ireland,' and was criticized by Mr. J. G. Baker, who gave an interesting sketch of the characteristics of the Irish flora.—Two papers were read by Mr. Sladen on the mammals and birds collected by Mr. H. N. Ridley in Fernando Noronha, in the determination of which the author had been assisted by Messrs. O. Thomas and R. B. Sharpe.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Nor. 16.—Mr. H. Bradley in the chair.—The Rev. Dr. Morris, President, read a paper by Dr. H. Hupe 'On the English MSS. of the "Cursor Mundi," their Forms and Dialects,' with a list, by himself, of certain alterations of difficult words made by copiers of the later MSS. Dr. Hupe had collated carefully three of the MSS., and examined Dr. Morris's texts. In opposition to Dr. Morris and Dr. Murray, Dr. Hupe contended that the poem was not written near Durham in the sixteenth century, but on the Yorkshire border of Lincolushire. The dialect of the best MSS. was not pure Northern like Hampole's, but was modified by East-Midland, by Lincolushire peculiarities. But the Fairfax MS, is West-Midland of the early part of the fifteenth century, and the Trinity MS. is South-Midland of the first quarter of the fifteenth century. Dr. Morris's comparison of the readings of the different MSS. showed some curious changes. One copyist, having before him the happy term "battle-wright" for a fighting man, rejected it for "warrior."

HISTORICAL.—Nov. 15.—Lord Aberdare, President, in the chair.—Mr. O. Browning read a paper 'On High Elliot at Naples, 1803–1806.'—A discussion followed, in which the Hon. A. D. White, Dr. Heinemann, Mr. R. Lloyd, and the Chairman took part.

HUGUENOT.—Nor. 14.—Sir H. W. Peek, Bart, V.P., in the chair.—The following new Fellows were elected: Archdeacon Perowne, Rev. W. Hudson, Rev. G. Nugee, Rev. J. J. Kotzé, Sir H. Bullard. Major-General Dickinson, Dr. Bensly, Dr. Frans, Capt. C. H. Palairet, Messrs. T. L. Archer, W. Gaussen, J. J. Gosset, H. J. Patteson, H. Platch, E. E. Prime, S. W. Silver, J. A. Symonds, F. O. Iaylor, T. Wilson, and L. B. Wooldredge, Miss Dampier, Mrs. Head, Lady Layard, and Miss F. L. Layard.—A paper was read 'On Early Refugees in the Channel Islands,' by Mr. H. M. Godfray.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK,

- MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WERK.

 MERCHANGA CARRIEST WIF. A. H. Church.

 Loyal Academy, 4.— 'Chemistry' Mr. A. H. Church.

 Loyal Academy, 4.— 'Chemistry' Mr. A. H. Church.

 London Institution, 5.— Time and Tide: the Romance of Modern Science, 'Sir R. S. Ball.

 Surveyors' Institution, 8.

 Seciety of Arts, 8.— 'Light and Colour,' Lecture I., Capt. W. de W. Abney (Cantor Lecture).

 Thomson.

 Civil Engineers, 8.— 'The Witham New Outfall Channel and Improvement Works,' Mr. J. E. Williams.

 Anthropological Institute, 'S,—'A G Id Breastplate from an Ancient Feruvian Grave, 'exhibited by the President; 'Marriane Culston of the New British Group,' Rev. B Danks; 'Ander Channel Channel of the New British Group,' Rev. B Danks; 'Society of Arts, 8.— 'The Phonograph,' Col. Gouraud.

 Microscopical, 5.—Conversatione

 London Institution, 7.— 'Handel, Vocal, Instrumental, and Pictorial Insurations,' Mr. W. H. Cumminseg.

 Antiquaries. S.—'A "Amorial Devices on Black-figured Vases at Microscopical, S.—'Conversatione of the Second Service Meservoir of Arts, and Syrata Florida Abbey,' Mr. J. Wills Bund.

 Royal, 4.—Anniversary Meeting.

 Civil Engineers, 7.—'Covered Service-Reservoir of the South-ampion Corporation,' Mr. E. T. Hiddred, 'New High-Level Storage-Reservoir for the Grand Junction Waterworks Commissions of the Second Service Heaver of the South-Ampion Corporation,' Mr. E. T. Hiddred, 'New High-Level Storage-Reservoir for the Grand Junction Waterworks Commissions of the Second Second

Science Cossip.

WE are glad to hear that Prof. Ray Lankester intends to offer himself to the electors to the Deputy Professorship of Comparative Anatomy at Oxford, which it has been necessary to establish in consequence of Prof. Moseley's long and unfortunate illness.

PROF. Dewar, F.R.S., will give the next course of Christmas lectures adapted to children at the Royal Institution, his subject being 'Clouds and Cloudland'; they will begin on December 27th. During the recess the staircases leading from the gallery of the shabby old theatre have been, we are glad to say, altered in order to facilitate egress.

A BOOK on ornithology and sport, by Mr. Abel Chapman, is now in the press, entitled 'Bird-Life of the Borders,' and contains records of sporting incidents, with notes of natural history on the moorlands and tidal waters of the north of England. The author illustrates his own writings by pen sketches. Messrs. Gurney & Jackson (Mr. Van Voorst's successors) will publish the volume.

THE forthcoming number of the Archaeological Review will continue Mr. Morland Simpson's translation of Dr. Bahnson's description of the various European ethnographical museums.

WE regret to have to announce the death of Mr. J. Rand Capron, F.R.A.S., of Guildown, Guildford, on the 12th inst., at the age of fifty-nine. Mr. Capron published in 1879 an elaborate and beautifully illustrated work on 'Auroræ, their Characters and Spectra,' and was also the author of several papers on astronomical and meteorological subjects.

Dr. Knighton, the author of a work that has attained considerable popularity, 'Struggles for Life,' has sent us a letter complaining that an article on 'Plagues' in Knowledge of this month is a close copy from what he has written on the subject in his work.

FINE ARTS

The ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION of OIL PAINTINGS by ARTISTS of the BRITISH and FOREIGN SCHOOLS is NOW OPEN at Thomas McLean's Gallery, 7, Haymarket, next the Theatre.—Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.

ARTS and CRAFTS EX "IBITION SOCIETY, the New Gallery, Regent Street —OPEN DALLY, 10 to 7.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 1s. EVENINGS, 7 to 10 (Thursdays excepted).—Admission, 6d; Catalogue, 5d.

'THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORE'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Dorf Gallery, S, New Boad Street, with 'Christ's earing the Practorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Filate's Wife,' and his other great Fictures. From 10 to 6 Daily.—Admission, 14.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The best of its class which as yet has reached us is Gleanings from 'The Graphic' (Routledge & Sons), by the late Mr. R. Caldecott, containing a number of clever and humorous sketches. They were absurdly over-rated at the time they were published; but the conse-quent reaction need not prevent our admiring what, in their modest way, are really meritorious, deftly, if slightly drawn, and if not very witty detity, it singuly drawn, and it not very withy or original, amusing and spirited designs. Of course, these "gleanings" by no means represent Mr. Caldecott's best work. From the same publishers we have received Miss Greenaway's thirty-five illustrations to Mr. Browning's Pied Piper of Hamelin, tastefully printed in colours by Mr. E. Evans. In these designs the artist cannot be said to have excelled herself, although the be said to have excelled herself, although the subject undoubtedly suited her vein of taste and lent itself to sympathetic treatment of children and quaint figures. The best thing in the volume is the reading of the piper's character—his slender figure, worn, resolute, and astute face, and quaint, though not ridiculous attire. Many of the children are needlessly stupid and Many of the children are needlessly stupid and dull, but there are many who are charming, and the design of the crowd marching tells the tale well. "Mars" has given us some bright and clever sketches of children in Friends and Flaymates (same publishers). Praise for their spirit, though it is commonplace, may be given to the following: Over Cambra House, but I the following: Our Country House, by J. Kleinmichel; A Journey round the World, by C. Marr; Jimmy, by T. G. Sowerby; and Our

Home, which contains verses of the mildest kind by Mrs. Sale Barker, and pretty sketches by Mr. A. W. Cooper (same publishers).

FROM Messrs, S. Low & Co. we have Nuremberg, by H. W. Longfellow, the jingling verses and thin sentiment of the popular poet accomand thin sentiment of the popular poet accompanied by indifferent photogravures of buildings in the German city, "illuminated and arranged by M. E. and A. Comegys." The prints hardly deserved the elaborate, though not graceful getting up of the volume; they are hard and dull.—A much more welcome volume is The dull.—A much more welcome volume is The Magazine of Art, 1888 (Cassell & Co.), which, with a considerable number of excellent cuts of with a considerable number of excellent cuts of the popular sort, combines a certain proportion which aim higher, and are deftly adapted to catch eyes which would overlook the showy ones. We cannot say much for Mr. Dicksee's 'Adam and Eve,' but most of these productions are above the average. The text is not of high value; brightness, and what the French call chic—a charming quality when not the becall chic-a charming quality when not the beall and end-all of an article—is the characteristic of this pleasant magazine. There are not a few good papers, the great defect of which is their shortness, such as 'The Crown,' by Mr. L. F. Day, and 'The Language of Line,' by Mr. W.

Among the trifles which, although they are not all without merit, cannot be said to "adorn our table" are The Highwaymen, by F. and E. Scannell; a number of children's books with trivial cuts and stories; and The Message of Love, illustrated with no excess of strength by Mr. Fulwell. These we owe to Messrs. Griffith, Farran & Co. — Less sentimental, but much Farran & Co. — Less sentimental, but much duller and out of date, is the trumpery Dame and her Donkeys Five, reprinted from a deservedly forgotten book of 1823 (Field & Tuer). — Asop's Fables (Fisher Unwin) is illustrated by cuts of some merit and no ambition by Mr. H. Ford. Over the Hills, by E. L. Shute, with coloured cuts by J. Watkins, will harm nobody, though it may charm but few. It is very weak and very nice. — From Messrs. is very weak and very nice. — From Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co. we have the Golden Hour Picture Book, by Mercie Sunshine, with tolerably good cuts, especially of cats and infants, suited for children.—The Besom-Maker, by H. Sumner, comes to us from Messrs. Longman & Co., and contains mild verses, music, and a number of woodcuts to which we make not the least objection nor can we praise them.— Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton have sent us The Voice of Nature and In the Olden Time, decorated by various artists and of no particular account. The illustrations of the former are pretty and neat. - Our Own Picture-Book, by E. Marshall, comprises a number of goody-goody stories describing an artificial state of child society which exists only in picture-books. Some of the cuts are not bad, but many more illustrate tameness itself. It is difficult to guess why better draughtsmen were not employed by Messrs. J. Nisbet & Co., who issued this book as well as Threefold Praise, with rather pretty coloured cuts of flowers in colours and landscapes.

—Twelve White Flowers, by F. and A. Livings (Hamilton, Adams & Co.), intelligent but rather dull letterpress, is illustrated by neatly but laboridull letterpress, is illustrated by neatly but labori-ously drawn plates of flowers, not one of which has the least art or spirit. The Misses Livings are not lively.— The military sketches in colours which appear with verses in Following the Drum (W. H. Allen & Co.) have some cleverness and vivacity. The verses are in the old-fashioned style of the 'Gallant Gay Dragoon,' fashioned style of the 'Gallant Gay Dragoon,' and seem oddly out of place in a world which hardly knows what "rollicking" is, and has ceased to believe in it.—The pretty and fantastic children's verses of The Blue Bells on the Lea, written by the late Mrs. Ewing (S.P.C.K.), deserved a better accompaniment of coloured cuts than Mr. R. André has furnished. Some of the designs are less weak and trivial than others, but none of them approaches mediocrity. The Child's Pictorial contains tales and verses

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through which a vein of virtue of the kind commonly called goody runs, but it is well disguised in various ways, and, the bulk of the work being excellent, we recommend the maga-zine to all whom it may concern. Among the contributors are Mrs. Molesworth, the Rev. J. G. Wood, and Miss F. Epps. The cuts, coloured and uncoloured, are capital.

The Courtship of Miles Standish, by H. W. Longfellow, is combined in a nicely got-up volume with illustrations by various artists and published by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. An introductory note supplies from the author's diary some curious notices of the popularity of the poem on its first appearance, when 25,000 copies were sold in a week, exclusive of the English edition printed from advance sheets. The pro-fessor wrote the whole of it quite at his leisure between December 2nd, 1857, and the following March 22nd. Probably there is not more than a week's work in it, if so much. The illustra-tions are of very unequal merit, and of no high ambition. They suit the text very well. Those of Mr. G. H. Boughton are good; the best are by Mr. F. T. Merrill. It is a curious illustration of the easy-going, sham anti-quarianism of the writer that he commended the stoutness of a breastplate of "sheer-steel," a blunder for "shear-steel," which betrays a notion that "shear" was a corruption of "sheer. latter word was never applied to steel. never was such a thing as sheer-steel, but Longfellow had heard of shear-steel, and the term caught his fancy. The publishers' part in this rolume has been admirably performed.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS.

Papers of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.-II. An Epigraphical Journey in Asia Minor. By Prof. J. R. S. Sterrett. -III. The Wolfe Expedition to Asia Minor. By Prof. J. R. S. Sterrett. (Boston, U.S., Damrell & Upham.)-These two volumes are honourable alike to the American School at Athens and to Prof. Sterrett. The former contains the text of 398 inscriptions, of which about 300 have been copied by Prof. Sterrett; the latter contains 651 in-scriptions, for nearly all of which he can claim credit. Of the 1,049 inscriptions the great majority They, of have been hitherto unpublished. course, vary much in value and interest. at least is of the very first rank, III. 558; while most of the 300 Isaurian inscriptions are entirely devoid of interest, and belong to the class which are included in a corpus solely for the sake of completeness. Three series may be mentioned as of special importance: the inscriptions of the people called Ormeleis, II. 32 to 59; those of the Xenoi Tekmoreioi, III. 366 to 384; and the fine set of Cataonian milestones, II. 269 to 349. Besides these there are many single inscriptions of great importance, such as that which gives the site of Lystra at Khatyn Serai. In regard to this we find no reference to the fact that Leake had by conjecture placed Lystra on the very site where Prof. Sterrett has discovered it: it does not, however, detract from the value of his discovery that Leake's guess was right. The fact that no recent authority has followed Leake shows how important and necessary Prof. Sterrett's discovery of definite objecevidence was. The inscriptions are published with little or no commentary; the text gives an account of the route, and the inscriptions in uncials and in cursive transcript are appended to the description of the day's journey. It was without doubt the best way to prove by a speedy publication how much can be performed by a single scholar during two seasons' travelling. In 1882-3 Prof. Sterrett was one of the students at the American School, in 1883 he travelled with Prof. Ramsay, in 1883-4 he was secretary to the School, and the two journeys whose results are here published were performed in 1884 and 1885. Very rarely has such a mass of new material for the antiquities of any country been

collected so quickly and published so rapidly; and the American School may be congratulated on having made such a brilliant start with one of its first year's students. Immediately after his second journey Prof. Sterrett was appointed to his present position in Miami University, and the duties of his professorship must have absorbed much time, and hence there is in this publication practically no attempt to arrange and estimate the value of the new material. This may also serve as an excuse for the too numerous slips that occur throughout the work. The "Committee of Publication" remark in a prefatory note that "for obvious reasons, which they trust will commend themselves to all, they have undertaken no editorial supervision of these volumes." We would venture to suggest that it would have been better to exercise a little more supervision over a young scholar's work. In several respects the editing of the inscriptions is unsatisfactory, and there are numerous misprints—an unnecessary blemish. Such errors as the following should not have been allowed. In II, No. 178, a Latin inscription, the symbols P.P. among the titles of an emperor are rendered "Pro Prætore" instead of Patrie. In II., No. 108, the phrase πρεσβευτής αὐτοκράτορος καὶ ἀντιστράτηγος Λυκίας is divided into two titles by a comma before kai, and interpreted in the commentary as denoting two separate offices, πρεσβευτής αὐτοκράτορος and ἀντιστράτηγος Λυκίας; it is merely the Greek translation of "legatus Augusti." pro prætore provinciæ Lyciæ Pamphyliæ." Some inscriptions are quite misunderstood, e. g., II. 184 contains a very curious text, which is left a blank in the transcription: οὐκ ἡμην ἐγενόμην οὐκ εἰμί οὐ μέλει μοι. We have in these words a brief history of human life: "I was not; I came into being; I am not; what care Il. 142 and 143 are spoilt by wrong division of the words. One is a metrical epitaph :-

'Αθανάτου ψυχῆς στήλην ἀνέθηκα Ἰουκοῦνδος Τύνβφ 'Αλεξάνδρ(ου) μνημοσύνης ἔνεκεν.

The other is a commonplace epitaph ending with a remarkable and curious phrase, but with none of the false genders of Prof. Sterrett's transcription: read 'Αρτέμεις Μαντοῦν τῆ συνβίω μνείας χάριν τον θε[ο]ν σὺ μὴ ὰδικήσεις. The spelling is for ios is common; here we have as often eis for is. Prof. Sterrett gives II. 46 as a separate inscription; he has not observed that it is merely the half of his II. 44. In II. 45 B he makes two persons out of one; read "Ατταλος 'Οσαεί ίερε ίνς Eρμ]οῦ, for the inscription is a list of priests, and the copy or the original engraver gives $\Lambda\Lambda$ by mistake for M. In II. 33 read $Z\eta\nu\omega\nu\sigma$ and Méya ν as a proper name. In II. 46 Prof. Sterrett has ${}^{\lambda}\Lambda\epsilon\iota\mu\dot{\eta}\tau\sigma\nu$ (δ)is, $\Pi\dot{\alpha}\tau\alpha\lambda\sigma$; but there is no need to do violence to his epigraphic text by inserting δ , and introducing a false order (δ is would before 'Ατειμήτου) and an unknown personal name Patalos: read Ίσπάταλος, as the epigraphic text prints, and all difficulties vanish. Spatalos is a common name, and the insertion of iota at the beginning is also common. In II. 156 Prof. Sterrett has again misunderstood this prothetic iota; read ἰσφαγέντι. In II. 52 Sterrett is unjust to the accuracy of his own copy, which he corrects unsparingly; read ἄριστον καὶ ἀττικὰς το', "he gave a public breakfast and 370 Attic drachmas." In the same inscription he has gone astray at the beginning through failing to perceive that the engraver by mistake has repeated unnecessarily the letters Φανστείνης ον-. In II. 53, B 32, he reads Τέκτων[ος], but it is an unnecessary conjecture to assign even to a Pisidian scribe such a genitive; the epigraphic text τέκτων is quite correct, and the word is not a personal name: "Chares the carpenter, son of Gnaios." In the same l. 1 read 0 \dot{v} aλ $[\epsilon \rho (i \nu v)]$ for 0 \dot{v} άλ $[\epsilon \nu \tau o s]$. In II. 158 he 0 \dot{v} aλ $[\epsilon \rho (i \nu v)]$ for 0 \dot{v} άλ $[\epsilon \nu \tau o s]$. In II. 158 he reads B $a \sigma \iota$ (i) $\lambda i \sigma \eta$, and remarks, "Basis is a new name"; but the obvious reading is B a $\sigma \iota$ - $(\lambda) i \sigma \eta$. In II. 91 he reads $\kappa a \theta \eta \sigma \epsilon \mu \nu \alpha$ (?); with a slight correction we have a new and interesting title, $\tau \delta \nu \ \kappa \alpha \theta \eta [\gamma] \epsilon \mu \nu \alpha \ ^{'} E \rho \mu \hat{\eta} \nu$, like the well-known Dionysos Kathegemon. In II. 150 the first line is misunderstood; the copy is accurate if we read Νεούιοι, i.e., Ν(αι)ούιοι. But in spite of a few such faults, which are far more numerous in vol. ii., the work is a remarkable monument of skilful and well-directed labour, which is equally honourable to the author and to the American School at Athens.

Papers of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Vol. IV. (Boston, U.S., Dam-rell & Upham.)—This volume, like the first rell & Upham.)—This volume, like the first of the series, consists of a number of papers by students of the School at Athens, with one by Prof. F. D. Allen, who was director in 1885–6. The latter is a long study 'On Greek Versification in Inscriptions,' with some interesting and important results; for example, the statistics on pp. 48–9, showing the history of the treatment of the weak and the strong pentheminant results of the dactylic hexameter. The mimeral cæsura of the dactylic hexameter. appendix contains a useful collection of 140 appendix contains a useful collection of 140 metrical inscriptions older than B.C. 150 which are not contained in Kaibel's 'Epigrammata Græca ex Lapidibus Collecta'; among them are the pretentious poems of Isyllos, whose chief interest probably is that they led Wilamowitz to write his brilliant book on the Epidaurian poet. The papers on the theatre of Thoricus are a necessary, but, as was inevitable, a rather uninteresting exposition of the results of the School's first excavations. That on the Pnyx is a most useful study on a subject of the first importance and of the greatest difficulty. The survey of the Pnyx hill by Mr. J. T. Clarke is by far the best that has ever been published; and it is most creditable to the School not to have been content with a reproduction of the current authorities on this point. This and the papers in vol. i. which relate to Athenian topography and antiquities will be found exceedingly useful by all English scholars who visit Athens

SALE. MESSES. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE commenced the sale of the collection of coins of the Hon. Robert Marsham on Monday, and, as was generally anticipated, the prices ruled very high. The following sums were realized on Monday and Tuesday:—Early British, gold, Tasciovanus, rev. horseman to left, with sword and shield, 13t. Epatticus, silver, obv. head of Hercules, rev. eagle with expanded wings standing on a serpent, 17t. Anglo-Saxon, silver: Baldred, rev. cross with pellets in the angles in centre of a circle, 21t. 5s. Offa, obv. bare-headed bust to right, 23l.; another type, 16l. 10s; Offa, obv. the king's name between two semicircular tablets, 21l. Cynethryth, obv. diademed bust to right, 25l. 10s. Ciolwlf II., diademed bust to right, rev. large cross-crosslet with lozenge centre, 16l. 10s. Regnald, obv. circle enclosing a small cross, 15l. 10s English: Egbert, Penny, legend commencing below the head and reading from left to right, 13l. 5s. Edward the Elder, Penny, rev. a water lily issuing from a line with star at each end, 17l.; another, different, 14l. 5s.; another, rev. a church, 19l. William I, Penny, obv. profile bust crowned with sceptre, rev. legend, 32l. 5s. (this coin was sold by Sotheby in April, 1880, when it realized 194.). Henry I., Penny, three-quarter-faced but to left with sceptre, and wearing an arched crown, rev. legend, 184. 5s.; Penny, profile bust to right, 154. 5s. Stephen and Matilda, obv. two figures holding between them a standard, rev. ornaments, 171. 10s. Matilda, Penny, crowned bust to right with sceptre, rev. a cross within eight curves, 21l. Robert, Earl of Gloucester, Penny, mailed figure on horseback with sword, rev. various ornaments, 16l. 10s. Earl of Warwick, Penny, bust to right with sceptre, rev. cross within eight curves, 26l. 10s.

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THE artistic year is considered to begin in earnest with the first sale at Christie's, which is appointed for to-day (Saturday), when the collections of the late Mr. John Bruce, of Wadhurst, and others will change owners. They comprise drawings by Callow, Stothard, Prout, and Messrs. S. P. Jackson and G. H. Andrews. and diessis. S. I. Jackson and G. H. Andrews. Among the pictures are works of Messrs. E. W. Cooke, A. Solomon, D. Cox, G. Chambers, W. Collins, J. E. Hodgson, J. B. Burgess, and G. H. Boughton.

THE meeting of delegates of the chief county archæological societies, with a view of bringing about the better organization of antiquarian research and publication, which we mentioned in our number for November 10th, was held in in our number for November 10th, was held in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries on November 14th. Representatives were present of the archeological societies of the following counties: Somerset, Cumberland, Westmore-land, Yorks, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Kent, Norfolk, Bucks, Essex, Lancashire, and Che-shire; of the Royal Archeological Institute, the British and Cambrian Archæological Associations, the Huguenot Society, the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle, and the Honourable Anaquaries of Areweastie, and the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion. A number of other societies were unable to send delegates, but expressed their approval of the objects of the conference. Many Fellows and local secretaries of the Society of Antiquaries were also at the action. After much discussion meeting. After much discussion a committee various proposals of amalgamation and common rations proposals of amalgamation and common action, and to report to an adjourned meeting to be held next spring. The committee consists of the President, Director, and Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, Lord Percy, the Rev. Dr. Cox, Mr. G. L. Gomme, Chancellor Ferguson, Mr. J. Romilly Allen, and Mr. E. P. Lotus Brock.

It is proposed to raise by subscription sufficient finds for the purchase of a replica, produced for the engraver of the original, of Mr. Lowes Dickinson's picture of General Gordon, called 'The Last Watch,' which we described some time ago, and to present it to the Gordon Boys' Home. The committee of the Home have accepted the offer, and promise to hang the work in their dining hall. The price is 200l., of which more than a fourth has been already abscribed. The Secretary of the Home will receive further contributions at 20, Cockspur

THE private view of the Exhibition of the Society of Painters in Water Colours is to take place next Saturday. The gallery will be opened to the public on the Monday following.

THE Arts and Crafts Exhibition at the New allery will be closed on the 1st of December, and after that preparations for the Stuart Exhi-January next, will immediately be begun.

THE Royal Tapestry Works at Old Windsor, ther struggling to exist under distinguished patronage, has succumbed to fate after a loss of not less than 60,000l. Some of the persons imployed propose, we understand, to continue the works at their own risk. They will, it is to hoped, do what the former management did -observe the true limitations of design as applied to tapestry, and cease to produce realistic pictures resembling only too closely the famous ion hearthrug which vexed the soul of Thacke-

By the next Indian mail will arrive, we undenstand, part i. of a new and important work satisfied 'Epigraphia Indica: a Record of the Teheological Survey of India, edited by Dr. and the Burgess, head of the Archeological Survey, bether with his assistants Messrs. Führer, alkach, Rea, and Cousens. This part will be bether the Burgess and Survey and Cousens. under the editorship of Drs. Bühler, Kielhorn, and Hultzsch. Part ii. will be issued in De-

THE French sculptor M. Lechesne is dead. He is well known as the artist of a remarkably fine group called 'L'Amour domptant les Bêtes Féroces, and for various designs of high merit including animals. He gained a Second Class medal in 1848 and the Legion of Honour in 1855

M. AUGUSTE BLANCHARD has been elected a member of the Académie des Beaux-Arts, as an engraver, in the place of M. François, deceased. M. Blanchard was born in Paris, May 18th, 1819, and is chiefly known in this country by his very fine engravings in pure line after pictures by Alma Tadema, Frith, Meissonier, and W. Holman Hunt.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

SHOREDITCH TOWN HALL .- Borough of Hackney Choral

Association.
St. James's Hall.—London Symphony Concerts. THE revival of Handel's neglected oratorios is a work which has proceeded intermittently within recent years. Since what may be called the renaissance of antiquarian music, which commenced with the formation of the Bach Choir twelve years ago, we have had performances of 'Belshazzar,' 'Semele,' 'Saul,' 'Hercules,' 'Theodora,' 'Jephtha,' 'Deborah,' 'Esther,' and 'Susanna,' and to these was added on Monday a revival of 'Joshua' by the Borough of Hackney Choral Association. The utter neglect which this fine and spirited work has suffered for more than a generation is not easily susceptible of explanation. It belongs to Handel's ripest period, the date of its composition being 1747, the year following 'Judas Maccabeus,' a work with which it has some points in common. Handel was not sufficiently acquainted with the niceties of the English language to be critical as to the subject matter which he was called upon to set, otherwise he would have at once rejected the absurd doggerel offered him by Dr. Morell, who in 'Joshua' has surpassed his other efforts. The composer was no doubt quite unconscious that most of the lines of the book are so much blatant nonsense, and they inspired him with some of his finest and most original music. The excellence of 'Joshua' does not lie wholly in the choruses, though some of these are in his best manner. The magnificent opening number "Ye sons of Israel" and "Glory to God" have been often heard at Handel festivals; but scarcely inferior to these, though of smaller proportions, are "Almighty Ruler of the skies," "We with redoubled rage," "Hail, mighty Joshua," and others. The airs, though for the most part cast in an old-fashioned mould, are generally remarkable for vigour and fresh-To describe them in detail would occupy too much space, but we may point to "Haste, Israel, haste," as among the finest of Handel's war songs, and the soprano air "Hark, 'tis the linnet," as worthy to compare with "Hush, ye pretty warbling choir." Indeed, the work from first to last is not only characteristic of the composer, but shows him in his most vigorous mood.

Turning to Monday's performance, we may remark that the Shoreditch Town Hall is singularly ill adapted for the rendering of

Handel's oratorios. It does not possess an organ, and there is no room on the platform for a pianoforte to replace the old-fashioned harpsichord. Whether the audience generally felt these disadvantages it is impossible to say, but at any rate a large proportion of the work created its full effect. Some additional accompaniments were of course necessary, and these were sparingly supplied by Mr. Ebenezer Prout, of whose qualifications for the task this is not the place to speak. Regarding the soloists it need scarcely be said that Miss Annie Marriott, Miss Hilda Wilson, and Mr. W. H. Brereton were eminently satisfactory. Mr. Gawthrop's fine voice was heard to advantage in the tenor airs, and he only needs more declamatory power to become an unexceptionable oratorio singer. Save for some feebleness and want of attack in the sopranos the choruses were excellently rendered, the basses being specially worthy of praise. Mr. Prout conducted the performance.

Mr. Henschel's Symphony Concerts commenced on Tuesday evening under decidedly encouraging circumstances. There was a large attendance, and it is understood that the subscription is twice as great as it was last year. We have, as a matter of course, the fullest sympathy with every under-taking of this nature, but the public is not to be wholly blamed for the slender amount of support it has hitherto afforded to these concerts. Experience has proved again and again that there is room for every musical enterprise which is good of its kind, and that mediocrity receives no encouragement even if the charges of admission are proportionately small. It may be stating an unpalatable truth to say that Mr. Henschel has not yet proved himself a first-class conductor. Sometimes we obtain excellent performances under his bâton, but more frequently the playing of the orchestra is uncertain, and wanting in balance and distinctiveness. Such was the case on Tuesday evening in Beethoven's Symphony in A, No. 7, and Wagner's 'Faust' Overture. The first and third movements of the symphony were given in most slovenly fashion, but in the finale an improvement was shown, the band playing for the first time with a fair amount of spirit and precision. By far the best performance of the evening was that of Grieg's Suite from the music to Ibsen's dramatic poem 'Peer Gynt,' Op. 46. This little work, which is already known as written for the pianoforte, is in the composer's most piquant style. It may not be of very great musical importance, but the freshness of the themes and the delicate, fanciful orchestration render the effect irresistible, and the concert could not have come to a happier conclusion. Schumann's Overture, Scherzo, and Finale, Op. 52, and the ballet air in 6 from Schubert's 'Rosamunde' were included in the programme.

NEW PIANOFORTE MUSIC.

Twelve Studies, in two books, by Walter Mac-farren (Ashdown), deserve to be well received not only as exercises, but by reason of their musical effectiveness. They are intended for moderately advanced students, and are in various styles, some being studies in expression rather than in mere technique. The fingering shows a conservative spirit, and would scarcely satisfy

those who advocate the free use of the thumb. The same publisher sends The Diatonic and Chromatic Scales, in the various forms required in the examinations at the Guildhall School of Music, edited by Charles Gardiner; Fifty Five-Finger Inventions, in all keys, by Dr. E. M. Lott, in which, however, the crossing of the thumb is occasionally employed; Twentyfive Progressive Studies, by Georges Pfeiffer, extremely well written, and on the average of somewhat greater difficulty than most of Cramer's studies; Un Aveu, a pleasing sketch in the style of an impromptu, by Tito Mattei; and Sabina, a minuet and trio, by Margaret Gyde, written in an extremely refined and musicianly manner and with considerable knowledge of effect.

Miniatures, ten duets, by Max Mayer, Op. 10 (Forsyth Brothers), are, as their name implies, trifling sketches for four hands, with character tatie titles. They are at once melodious and tasteful, and may be warmly recommended to teachers in search of elementary duets. The same publishers send Album for the Young, consisting of forty short pieces, in two books, by Ernst Pauer. These are trifles of a few bars each, of course easy and well put together, but wanting in distinctiveness of character. We have also received Thème et Variations,

by Margaret de Pachmann (Novello, Ewer & Co.), a remarkably well-written piece of which we have already spoken favourably; and Technical Exercises, on the Deppe principle, arranged by C. A. Ehrenfechter (Weekes & Co.), some of which are admirably qualified to strengthen and equalize the touch.

Musical Cossip.

An immense audience attended the first of the Saturday Popular Concerts, but the programme, both as to works and artists, was of such a nature as to call for merely formal record. Mendelssohn's Quintet in B flat, Op. 87; Brahms's Sonata in A for piano and violin, Op. 100; and Beethoven's Trio in D, Op. 70, No. 1, were the principal items. Sir Charles Halle played two pieces by Chopin in his best style, and Miss Liza Lehmann was the vocalist.

SPOHR'S Quartet in A, Op. 93; Chopin's Sonata in a minor for piano and violoncello, Op. 65; and Haydn's Trio in G were the concerted works on Monday, and Mdlle. Janotha played Mendelssohn's Fantasia in F sharp minor, Op. 28.

MADAME NORDICA being detained in America longer than was anticipated, a substitute had to be found for the part of Elsie in 'The Golden Legend' at the Crystal Palace last Saturday, and Miss Emily Spada, another American vocalist, undertook the music. The new-comer, who had the advantage of studying it under Sir Arthur Sullivan, has a voice pure in quality, but apparently weak in the upper register. She sang with refined taste and with a welcome freedom from the over-accentuation in which other artists indulge in this part. The cast was completed by Madame Belle Cole, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Barrington Foote. The last named gentleman's Lucifer may be highly commended. The choruses were sung with much vigour, though the tone was a little coarse at times. In spite, however, of the abnormally slow pace at which the unaccompanied hymn was taken, the pitch was well maintained.

MESSES. NOVELLO, EWER & Co. have issued the prospectus of their coming series of Oratorio Concerts. Six concerts will be given at St. James's Hall during the present season. At the first, on December 6th, Dr. Parry's Birmingham oratorio 'Judith' will be given for the first time in London. This will be followed by the 'Messiah' on December 18th, and 'Elijah on January 23rd, 1889. At the fourth concert, on February 26th, Dr. Mackenzie's cantata 'The Dream of Jubal' will be given; also Saint-

Saëns's 19th Psalm and Weber's hymn "In constant order." stant order." The fifth concert (March 19th) will be occupied by Dudley Buck's cantata 'The Light of Asia'; and at the last concert (April 9th) will be performed Handel's 'Saul,' a most welcome revival. Dr. Mackenzie will continue to hold the post of conductor.

THERE was a vast audience at the first of the Patti concerts at the Albert Hall on Tuesday, and the great vocalist proved herself to be still in full possession of her unrivalled powers. She contented herself, however, with hackneyed pieces, on which no comment is required. Madame Patey, Miss Nettie Carpenter, Mr. Lloyd, and Signor Foli took part in the concert; and an orchestra under Mr. W. Ganz played the first movement of Schubert's Unfinished Symphony, and the overtures to 'Euryanthe,' 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' and 'Le Domino Noir.

A NEW orchestra has been erected in the City of London School for the concerts of the Guildhall School of Music, and the inaugural performance took place last Saturday in the presence of the Lord Mayor. Taken as a whole the efforts of the students who appeared were characterized by a remarkable degree of excellence. The best was the performance of Vieuxtemps's very arduous Violin Concerto in E by Miss Jeanne Levine. In this technical ability of no ordinary character was manifested. Among the vocalists Miss Annie Swinfen and Miss Amy Sargent, both sopranos, showed considerable promise. The orchestra, consisting of 108 students, fifty of whom were females, played Meyerbeer's 'Struensee' Overture and the first movement of Beethoven's c Minor Symphony in a manner that reflected the utmost credit on Mr. Weist

Mr. A. Goring Thomas will publish before Christmas, through Messrs. J. B. Cramer & Co , an album of twelve new English songs—ten solos and two duets—each separately dedicated to a well-known singer. The words throughout are by Mr. Harold Boulton, co-editor of 'Songs of the North.'

AT Quebec Chapel, Bryanston Square, next Sunday evening, Purcell's fine anthem "My Beloved spake" will be sung, accompanied by a band of twenty-five strings. The voluntary at the same service will be Handel's Second Concerto for organ and orchestra. It is believed that Purcell's anthem has not been given with orchestral accompaniment during the present generation.

THE first of Mr. John Boosey's London Ballad Concerts took place on Wednesday evening, when an excellent programme of its class was

THE Leeds Philharmonic Chorus has been engaged for Mendelssohn's 'Walpurgis Nacht' and Beethoven's Choral Symphony at one of the London Symphony Concerts.

THE Royal College of Music concert on Thursday last week included Brahms's Quintet in F minor, Op. 34; Mendelssohn's Organ Sonata in A, No. 3; and Beethoven's Quartet in c minor, Op. 18, No. 4.

MR. TOBIAS MATTHAY gave his annual pianoforte recital at the Princes' Hall on Thursday afternoon last week. His programme was of more than usual interest, and included four numbers of Grieg's charming 'Lyrische Stückchen,' Op. 43, Book 3; some rarely heard pieces by Goetz and Brahms; Beethoven's Sonata in n minor, Op. 31, No. 2; and five numbers of his own somewhat eccentric 'Moods of a Moment,' which we noticed not long since in our review columns.

THE programmes of Messrs. Paterson & Sons' six orchestral concerts at Edinburgh, under the direction of Mr. Manns, have been issued, and contain several interesting works not yet heard in Scotland. Among these are the first move-ment of Mr Wingham's Serenade, Praeger's

Symphonic Prelude to Byron's 'Manfred,' Mosz. kowski's 'Cortège Fantastique,' Dr. Stanford's 'Irish' Symphony, and Godard's Violin Concerte. Mr. Hamish McCunn's cantata ' Bonny Kilmeny and his overture 'The Dowie Dens o' Yarrow will be given at the fifth concert.

THE programme of Sir Charles Halle's concert at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, last Thursday, included Haydn's Symphony in B flat, No. 12; Brahms's 'Academical Overture'; and Mackenzie's 'La Belle Dame sans Merci.' Madame Essipoff was the pianist, and Mr. Max Heinrich the vocalist.

THREE prizes for the best symphonies were offered last year by the directors of the Berlin Concert House. Fifty-seven works were sent in, and the three successful competitors are now announced to be Herren Georg Schumann, of Leipzig; Ferdinand Manns, of Bremen; and Josef Dente, of Stockholm, who receive prizes of 1,000, 500, and 300 marks respectively.

THE death is announced from Paris of M. Choudens, the well-known publisher.

CONCERTS, &c., NEXT WEEK.

Mr. Alfred Greenwood's Concert, 8, Portman Rooms (Small Hall). Highbury Philharmonic Society, 'Moses in Egypt,' 8, the High Popular Concert, 3.0, 8t. James's Hall. Bohr mian Subscription Concerts (Ladies' Night), 8.30, Portmu

Bohr mina Subscription Concerts (Ladies' Night), 8,30, Fortma Rooms.

Mr. Isidore de Lara's Second Vocal Recitat 3 39, Steinway Hall London Symphony Concert, 8,30, 8t James's Hall.

London Staind Concert, 3, 8, 8t James's Hall.

London Bailad Concert, 3, 8t James's Hall.

Royal Choral Society, 8, Albert Hall.

Mr. De Solla's Concert, 3, Princes' Hall.

Mr. De Solla's Concert, 3, Princes' Hall.

Noval Pociety of Musicians, Performance of the 'Messiah,' 7, Westmitsster Abbey.

Westmitsster Abbey.

Mr. Frederic Penna's Vocal and Dramatic Recitat, 8, Steinway Hall.

Hall.

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Hali.

Heckman Quartet. 8. Princes' Hall.

Miss Jessie Bridze's Pianoforte Recital, 3. Princes' Hall.

Miss Jessie Bridze's Pianoforte Recital, 3. Princes' Hall.

Mr. William Carter's Scotch Concert, 74. A. Ibert Hall.

Annual Scotch Concert, 8, 8t. James' Hall.

Miss Henden-Warde's Concert, 8, 30. Steinway Hall.

Crystal Palace Concert, 3.

Popular Concert, 3. St. James' Hall.

DRAMA

THE FOLIOS OF JONSON AND SHAKSPEARE.

Trinity College, Cambridge, Nov. 17, 1888. I SHOULD like to anticipate the editorial asterisks by a few more remarks, which I will put as shortly as I can. If my former letter seemed discourteous, the provocation was great. I do not know what "assumptions" I made, except with regard to the possibility of a sheet being "printed and folded so as to form six leaves"; and that assumption was not mine.

"If we have the terms folio, quarto, and the like, we ought also to have that of sexto, since none of them then denoted anything but the quir-Here is a plain issue. When had these terms such a meaning? Not in the fifteenth century, or certain block-books would have been the only folios; certainly not in the sixteenth century. Henri Étienne, in his 'Index Librorum qui ex officina Henrici Stephani hactenus prodierunt, uses the notation "fo," "40," "80," "16°," to which he adds (as being used by some booksellers) "po po" (parvo parvo), and even "popo" for his own tiny version of certain Palms. It is hardly necessary to say that "f" and "16"" do not denote quiring; the others do so just as little. They denote the folding of the sheet.

I have not dragged in Henri Étienne without a reason. His notation (except the "p.p. has been revived quite recently by Mr. Bradshaw, who used it as being simple, compact, and symmetrical. I do not see why it should not still be generally adopted.

It is a cruel instance of the irony of fortune that Mr. Bradshaw should be accused of proposing that the sizes of books (without qualifcation) "should be determined not by signa-(they never are, or certainly never should tures" (they never are, or certainly never should be), "but by the use of a foot-rule." Perhaps I may explain what he did propose. Seeing that the terms "f°," "4°," "8°," &c., denoted a point of structure (not size) which in the case of

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modern books, printed on machine-made paper, modern books, printed on machine-made paper, could not be ascertained, he proposed that, in the case of modern books, these terms, which could not be used precisely, should be abandoned and replaced by the size-notation (14 in. by 9 in., e.g.) which Mr. Pollard mentions. This notation has been used here in Trinity College Elbert for the last thirty years.

information has been dead noted in the last thirty years.

As to the notion that the size of books can be determined by signatures, I merely say this: if the term "eights" is misused to signify that each gathering consists of eight leaves, it covers so wide a field as to be practically useless; for in this sense most folios, many quartos, and all octavos, 16mos., and 32mos. are in eights.

FRANCIS JENKINSON.

Nov. 17, 1888.

DR. NICHOLSON'S suggestion is most unfortunate, because he cannot produce a sheet of paper folded as sexto that will bind satisfactorily. The basis of our present nomenclature is the natural basis of our present nomenciature is the natural fold of a sheet of foolscap, which divided once is a folio, folded into four is a 4to., and so on; but we have other sizes, such as post, crown, medium, imperial, all of which will produce folios of different inches, designated from the sheet printed on. Taking the primary two-ply as an ideal, all books larger than 4to, are so classed, i.e., as folios, and the boards for binding are cut to size accordingly; but a sheet folded into sexto gives a small 4to. or exact square, and cannot be bound without an inset, producing a size formerly much used for school dictionaries, which, however, were printed double, i. e., square 12mo.

This is the condition under which the first Shakspeare folio was bound; but to show that it was really a sexto you must produce a complete sheet and show that it was printed at one pull of the press. It opens with 'The Tempest,' sig. A, 4 pp.; sig. A2, 4 pp.; sig. A3, 4 pp. Technically it is a half sheet duodecimo, and these three signatures are all inset for solidity

in binding.

This complicated system led to a hash thus: 'Troilus and Cressida' is interpaged between histories and tragedies, but omitted from the table of contents. As originally "cast off" it should come between 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Timon,' as shown below :-

Sig. gg, 'Romeo,' pp. 73, 74; 'Troilus,' pro-

logue and p. 78.
Sig. gg2, 'Romeo,' pp. 75, 76; 'Troilus,' pp. 79, 80.

pp. 79, 80.
Sig. Gg (a fresh notation), 'Romeo,' p. 79
(sic); 'Timon,' pp. 80, 87, 88.
Sig. gg2 (bis), 'Timon,' pp. 81, 82, 85, 86.
Sig. gg3, 'Timon,' pp. 81, 82 (bis), 83, 84, and so on, while 'Troilus' goes on.
Sig. G, a fresh notation, pp. 18 for 81, 82.
Sig. g2, pp. 88 for 83, 48 for 84.
Sig. g2, arest uppeared.

Sig. g3, rest unpaged. These wrong numerals were left for the reader" to correct, but overlooked.

Liverpool, Nov. 17, 1888.

WILL Dr. Nicholson pardon me for remarking that in his first letter he distinctly stated that when he was examining Scot's 'Witchcraft' (1665, fol.) he "observed that the signatures were in sixes, that is, that each sheet had been were in sixes, that is, that each sheet had been printed and folded so as to form six leaves, and not two, as in the folio proper"? He also said of his "own seeming folios" that "not one of them is a true folio." This idea seems to be continued in the concluding sentence of his second letter, but I fancy it will be found that the old volumes which are now regarded as folios, and which have the water-marks in a position which shows that their sheets have been tion which shows that their sheets have been only once folded, were also named and regarded only once forded, were also handed and regarded as folios in the seventeenth century, however they were "quired." In a list of "books printed for Humphrey Moseley" prefixed to the second edition of Howell's 'Epistolæ Ho-Elianæ,' 1650, there are several works entered as being "in

folio," including the first edition of Beaumont and Fletcher. Is this volume "in twos"?

I am obliged to Mr. Butler for pointing out

the slip I made in giving the size of the supposed The smaller size, however, is amply large enough to support the argument as regards the old folios in question. J. F. Mansergh.

P.S.—I find that a large part of my copy of Camden's 'Britannia' (1695) is certainly "in fours," the body of the work commencing with A, then A2, then two unsigned leaves, and so on.

What was the motive of Dr. Nicholson's first letter? It could not have been to tell the public that the first folio Shakspeare and many other books the same size were formed of gatherings or sections containing six leaves each; for the or sections containing six leaves each; for the most ordinary reader must have observed that for himself. When he says, "My own seeming folios number thirty-nine, and not one of them is a true folio," I suppose he means they are not folios. What else can he mean? He goes on to say some are in sexto and some are oblong quartos (which I very much doubt), "and to all outward appearance small folios"—implying that they are not what they appear. that they are not what they appear.

Among the big books in my library are three editions of the 'Bible in Englyshe of the largest and greatest volume' (King Henry VIII.), the leaves of which measure 16 in. by 10½ in. These are all in sections of eight leaves, "i.e., are So would say Dr. Nicholson.

I have also four Bishops' Bibles, 1572 to 1602, measuring $16\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $10\frac{3}{4}$ in., all so nearly of a size that as they stand in a row on the shelf in their purple morocco jackets no difference can be discerned. Two are in sections of eight, and two in sections of six; therefore, according to Dr. Nicholson, they are not "true folios," but, although of the same size, two are "sextos" and two are octavos.

I have also four copies of the Authorized or King James's Version, 1611-13, &c., about the same size as the Bishops', or a little larger, which are in sections of six, therefore "not true folios,"

but "sextos."

Up to the time when they were printed these Bibles were the biggest books in the English language. The Bible of King Henry VIII. was was called "The Great Bible," and still Dr. Nicholson would say it is not a "true folio."

The inventors of printing appear to have been as stupid as the English, for I find my Peter Scheffer's Bible, 1472, measuring 15 in. by $10\frac{1}{2}$ in., is in sections of six, as is also the Koburger of 1475, although it is somewhat larger. Alas! I have no folios, for the biggest old book I have, Koburger's 'Nuremberg Chroold book I nave, Koourger's Autenness Chronicle, 1493, size $18\frac{1}{4}$ in. by $12\frac{1}{2}$ in., is not a folio, as I had fondly imagined, but only a miserable "sexto." Even my MSS. have deceived me, for the grandest of them, my illuminated service book of the fifteenth century, on vellum, although 15 in. by 11 in., is also a " sexto."

I flew to my Camden's 'Britannia' for consolation, which Dr. Nicholson says is a "true folio," but even here I was betrayed, for I found the book made up of sheets containing two leaves, therefore it is a "duo" and not a "true folio"; for if a section containing six leaves is a "sexto," and one containing four leaves a a sexio, and one containing four leaves a quarto, one containing two leaves must be a "duo." The conclusion is that the only books which can possibly be "true folios" are volumes of playbills, broadside ballads, and things of that

As for my first, second, and fourth "so-called folio" Shakspeares, which I have hitherto been so proud of, and which have cost me so much, now that I find they are only "sextos" I could

almost weep.

It must have been an impressive sight to see
Dr. Nicholson and his friend at Walditch when this great discovery first burst upon them, and

they rushed to examine the "thirty-nine folios." It reminds me of George III. and the old woman with the apple dumplings. Did they have a It would seem most appropriate to lantern? have a lantern.

But it must have been a more interesting sight still to see the worthy Doctor thinking over "a practicable plan by which three compositors could each have set up one of three sheets 'quired' in sexto simultaneously, that is, allowing the space of an hour or less between them." There was mirth in the Athenœum printing - office when that sentence met the

compo's eye, I know.

I shall be very much obliged to Dr. Nicholson for one bit of information. He talks very fluently about "sextos." Now I was a practical printer for forty years, but I never knew how to fold an ordinary sheet of paper into "sexto" so as to make ordinary shaped leaves—where the height is greater than the breadth-without having two "single" leaves, which could not be folded, but would have to be stuck on each section with paste. There could be "half a sheet of twelves," where you "work and turn," which is quite a different thing, and which was altogether beyond the means and appliances of the early printers.

And here let me observe that English printers say "sixto," not "sexto," and "twelvemo" (or "twelves"), not "duodecimo."

If Dr. Nicholson dislikes anything in this letter, or disagrees with it, I hope he will not be hasty to censure me, because how can he tell but that which he now dislikes may be entirely due to my "reticence"? and let him wait to see whether or not I have "reserved some points for a future letter" which may put an entirely different construction upon this.

ROBERT ROBERTS.

Bramatic Cossip.

An interesting meeting was held last week in Lord Coleridge's room at the Law Courts to consider the proposal originally made by the Elizabethan Literary Society of Toynbee Hall to erect a memorial to Christopher Marlowe. Lord a memorial to Christopher Marlowe. Lord Coleridge presided, and among those present were Mr. Leslie Stephen, Prof. J. W. Hales, Mr. Edmund Gosse, Mr. Sidney L. Lee, and Messrs. Rogers and Baker of the Elizabethan Society. Letters supporting the scheme were read from Mr. Browning, Mr. Swinburne, Mr. Irving, Mr. J. R. Lowell, Prof. Dowden, Mr. Saintsbury, Mr. Traill, Prof. A. W. Ward, Mr. Furness of Philadelphia, and Prof. Child of Harvard. Four sites were suggested for the Harvard. Four sites were suggested for the memorial—Deptford, where the poet lies buried; Canterbury, where he was born and educated; Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, where he graduated; and Westminster Abbey. The undesirability of commemorating the circumstances desirability of commemorating the circumstances attending Marlowe's death at Deptford was insisted on by many speakers. Mr. Swinburne sent a letter advocating the propriety of selecting Canterbury. Prof. Hales proposed that, failing Westminster Abbey, the memorial should mark the site of one of the theatres in London where Marlowe's plays were produced. Discussion of the question was adjourned to enable Lord Coleridge to obtain further information. Lord Coleridge consented to act as chairman of the committee, which includes, besides those persons already mentioned, Mr. Alfred Austin, Mr. A. H. Bullen, Mr. J. S. Cotton, Mr. W. J. A. H. Bullen, Mr. J. S. Cotton, Mr. W. J. Evelyn, Mr. Havelock Ellis, Dr. Furnivall, Mr. Richard Garnett, the Rev. A. B. Grosart, Mr. Lang, Mr. Frank Marshall, Mr. W. M. Rossetti, and Mr. Bell Scott. Mr. Sidney L. Lee (26, Brondesbury Villas, N.W.) was appointed treasurer, and subscriptions may be paid to him. Messrs. Frederick Rogers (62, Nicholas Street, E.) and J. E. Baker, who first suggested the memorial, will act as secretaries.

'MASKS AND FACES' will be revived at the Haymarket next month as the first of a series

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of afternoon representations of works of established reputation. Mrs. Bernard Beere will be Peg Woffington; Mrs. Tree, Mabel; and Mr. Tree, Triplet.

An original drama by Mr. H. A. Jones is to be the next novelty at the Haymarket.

TUESDAY next is fixed for the production at the St. James's of Mr. Gilbert's new drama 'Brantinghame Hall.' The principal parts in this will be played by Messrs. Lewis Waller, W. Herbert, Rutland Barrington, and Norman Forbes, Misses Julia Neilson and Norreys, and Mrs. Gaston Murray.

'THE LOVE THAT KILLS,' a piece already twice given at morning performances, will be produced on Monday afternoon at the Princess's by Miss Hawthorne and Miss Sophie Eyre. Bizet's music from 'L'Arlésienne' will once more con-

stitute a feature.

A FARCICAL comedy by Mr. Horace Sedger and Mr. Ralph Lumley is to be given on the afternoon of the 5th prox. at the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

'ATALANTA,' the new burlesque of Mr. G. P. Hawtrey, produced on Saturday at the Strand, commences with a promise of novelty and ingenuity which is not fulfilled. Its opening scenes are amusing, but the humour is before long worn threadbare. The final scene of a long worn threadbare. The hnal scene of a racecourse is not particularly happy. In spite of some good acting by Miss Marie Linden as Atalanta, Mr. F. Wyatt as Hippomenes, Miss Stanley as Aphrodite, and Mr. W. F. Hawtrey as Scheeneus, the novelty failed to attract.

'A Highland Legacy,' a one act comedy by Mr. Brandon Thomas, which serves as lever de rideau at the Strand Theatre, is a well-written, clever, and sympathetic piece, and is brightly played by the author and other members of the

company.

The first performance at the Shaftesbury of 'The Lady of Lyons' took place on Monday night, a representation announced for the previous Saturday having had to be abandoned in consequence of the inability of the management consequence of the inability of the management to lift the fireproof curtain. A fairly successful performance was given. Mr. Forbes Robertson was an excellent Claude Melnotte, and Miss Wallis an intelligent Pauline. Mr. Mackintosh was moderately successful as Col. Damas, and other parts were competently sustained by Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Mr. Chas. Arnold, and other actors.

The death of M. Edmond Gondinet deprives the French stage of a successful and fairly prolific dramatist. His début took place in 1863, when he contributed to the Théâtre Français 'Trop Curieux,' a one-act piece in verse. 'Gavaud, Minard et Cie.,' a comedy in three acts, 1869, and 'Le Plus Heureux des Trois,' written in collaboration with Labiche, 1870, were very successful at the Palais Royal. A less happy fate attended 'Christine,' a four-act drama, contributed to the Théâtre Français. Amongst many pieces subsequently given to various Parisian theatres were 'Le Panache,' Palais Royal, 1875; 'Le Club,' Vaudeville, 1877; and 'La Belle Madame Donis,' December 31st of the same year. M. Gondinet was born in 1829, and was originally in a Government office. He has been long ailing. THE death of M. Edmond Gondinet dein a Government office. He has been long ailing.

THE death is announced of Prof. Delius, of Bonn, noted for his services to Shakspearean criticism. He first appeared as a writer on Shakspeare in 1846, we believe. In 1854 he began publishing his well-known edition of Shakspeare, giving an excellent text and useful notes. This edition has been several times reprinted, and a reprint of the text was published by Messrs. Cassell & Co. some years ago in their "Leopold" Shakspeare. Prof. Delius also wrote on Provençal literature. He was an amiable man and widely esteemed.

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